DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXIII, No. 1. Section 1 October 1, 1941.

FARM PLAN CALLED LONG TERM STEP

AP report from Memphis, Tenn. Sept. 30: USDA's 1942 food-production campaign was interpreted by one of its officials today as the beginning of a permanent program which would modify the one-crop system in America. Speaking before Southern farm leaders here, Wayne Darrow, chief of the information division of the AAA, termed the present campaign "a pioneer effort in the world of the future." Later he amplified his statement in an interview, declaring the department's plans should be considered not only as a wartime measure but as the first step in a permanent program of increased consumption and production for need. He said there was no idea of "breaking the back of the one-crop system," but that an intelligent program would modify it. "I do not believe the South's farm economy will be changed in one clean sweep," he explained. "I would say our aim for the South is production of no more cotton than is needed, but certainly as much as is needed. And with it, we want other products — milk, eggs, poultry. We want to establish and maintain higher consumptive levels."

ASK MILK MARKETING INVESTIGATION

AP report from Utica in New York Times, Oct. 1: Congressional investigation into administration of milk marketing orders in the New York milkshed was demanded yesterday on the eve of new price schedules bringing increased returns to 60,000 dairy farmers in the six-State area. The Dairy Farmers Union, with asserted membership of 22,000 producers, asked for the inquiry. The new schedule, effective today, will bring producers in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut a 23-cent increase over the present return of $2.88 per hundredweight for Class 1 fluid milk.

THOMAS CALLS PRICE-CONTROL CONFERENCE

New York Times, Oct. 1: A meeting of Governors and agricultural officials of all farm States was called yesterday by Senator Thomas of Oklahoma, chairman of a special Agriculture Sub-Committee, to meet in Washington Oct. 9 and 10 to discuss price control legislation. The move was interpreted as the forerunner of organized opposition to putting a ceiling on farm prices, such as was advocated day before yesterday by Marriner S. Eccles, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board. Senator Thomas said the meeting would seek to formulate a policy toward pending price control legislation and parity prices.

Wickard Calls Wheat No. 1 Problem Crop

From Memphis, a September 30 AP dispatch in the Baltimore Sun says: Secretary Wickard at the Memphis Conference assured cotton farmers that his department will not try to force a reduction of 1942 cotton acreage by law. This question was the main bone of contention at the meeting. As to the possibility of compulsory cotton acreage reduction after 1942, Wickard said "I wouldn't make any assertion." He also assured the delegates that the USDA would consider the question of a price support for peanuts. Discussing the cotton question, he said: "I told some people the other day that there had been a change -- that cotton was no longer the No. 1 problem crop of this nation. In my opinion, wheat is now the No. 1 problem crop. This year we have a good chance of consuming or exporting as much cotton as we produce, and we can't say the same of wheat."

Drought Still Severe in East

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin: The drought which has prevailed since early in September was further aggravated during the week just closed by an almost total absence of measurable rain from Virginia and the eastern Ohio Valley northeastward. In this area reports are continuing of streams and wells failing, while in some localities the river stages are approaching the record low values. The forest-fire hazard has increased considerably in the upper Appalachians and in the New England area the woods are closed. In this latter section the natural water supplies are reported the lowest in 50 years.

U.S.-British Economic Conference

Copyright report by New York Times, in Washington Post, Sept. 28: The United States will start discussing ways and means of implementing the Atlantic charter in October when Sir Frederick Leith-Ross, chief economic adviser to the British Government, comes to Washington for a series of conferences with Vice President Wallace, chairman of the Economic Defense Board. As president of the Inter-Allied Raw Materials Bureau, which is charged with establishing reserve stocks of food and raw materials to be used in rehabilitating post-war Europe, the British economist is expected to discuss with Wallace and President Roosevelt the extent to which the United States is prepared to cooperate in the creation and operation of the raw materials pool. Wallace has long been a keen student of international trade and its relation to the economy of the United States and Europe, and the Economic Defense Board is authorized to "make investigation and advise the President on the relationship of economic defense measures to post-war economic reconstruction."

Hull Opposes U.S. Food for Occupied Areas

New York Times, Sept. 26: Senator Connally has made public a letter from Secretary of State Hull to Senator George, under date of June 19, when George was chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, placing upon Germany the full responsibility for providing food for the countries which she had invaded, and strongly intimating the State Department's opposition to this country sharing that responsibility in any degree. The letter from the Secretary of State was made public as part of a move to kill a resolution pending before the Foreign Relations Committee, introduced by Senator George and other Senators, urging Secretary Hull to try to formulate some plan in collaboration with other governments, for feeding the occupied areas.

Brown, BPI, Retires

After more than 42 years of service in the Department, Edgar Brown, principal botanist of BPI, retired from active duty Sept. 30. Like many other retired scientists, he plans to continue his research as a collaborator. Mr. Brown entered the Department in 1899 and was assigned to the seed testing laboratory. In 1901 he was placed in charge of the laboratory and directed seed investigations until 1938, when the seed law enforcement was transferred to AMS. Since then he has been doing special research on cereal seeds.

Funds for Ala. Rural Housing

AP report in Birmingham News-Age-Herald, Sept. 21: The Federal Works Agency has allotted $1,000,000 to two rural housing districts of Alabama for the construction of farm dwellings. The districts, one in south central and southwest Alabama and one in western Alabama, will get $500,000 each. The money will be loaned to the State Rural Housing Authority, which in turn will make individual housing loans. The construction will cost about $1,600 a unit, to be amortized at the rate of $70 a year, including insurance and rates.

Labor Shortage Hampers Soil Conservation Work

Hagerstown, Md., report in Baltimore Evening Sun, Sept. 21: A shortage of labor is hampering soil conservation work in Washington County, where owners of 52 farms comprising 11,000 acres have signed up for such projects. Wilbur H. Stevenson, district conservationist, said the shortage of help for soil-saving work was attributable to removal of the CCC camp from the county and absorption of farm laborers by defense industries. He said the farm labor load would be lightened and machinery used to better advantage if level, smooth, and easily tilled land were thrown together for cultivated crops, and rough, hilly land used for permanent pastures.

Casein Fiber, Lambs' Wool in Felt Hats

New York Herald Tribune, Sept. 25: The hat industry has disclosed a new process for manufacturing felt which, it is hoped, will keep prices and costs within reasonable limits. The process, involving the use of aralac, a casein fiber made from milk, and lamb's wool, results in a substantial reduction in the amount of fur needed. It was pointed out by the Hat Corporation of America that prices of rabbit fur had advanced since the beginning of the war abroad from $1.90 to $6 a pound. The new felt is made of 15 percent casein fiber, 30 percent lamb's wool, 50 percent rabbit fur, and a little muskrat.

Students Aid Farm Harvest

AP report in New York Times, Sept. 24: Public school students of New York may absent themselves from classes to help with the fall harvest for 15 instead of 10 days. The Board of Regents acted after receiving repeated appeals for relief from a farm labor shortage.

Primeval Woods Discovered in Colorado

Editorial in New Orleans Times Picayune, Sept. 21: A secluded 40-acre tract of primeval woods, containing 30-inch Engelman spruce trees that rise as high as a seven-story building, has been discovered by E. S. Keithley, supervisor of the Pike National Forest in Colorado. The timber is virgin, "spared for many years from forest fire or timber cutters." Mr. Keithley wants it set aside by the Forest Service as a "forest primeval."

Long-Term Leases For Southeast FSA Families

AP report in Birmingham News-Age-Herald, Sept. 21: FSA has announced it would sponsor signing of 3,500 farm leases running for 10 years or more in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina in an effort "to demonstrate that only through this security can the proper conservation of both human and natural resources be obtained." The long-term leases, said E. S. Morgan, regional FSA director, will include provisions for farm and home improvements similar to those which FSA now requires from its clients. FSA will offer plans for improvement loans under the long-term leases. Under one, the tenant would borrow the money and when the leases expired, the owner would pay him for the improvements, with 5 percent depreciation a year. Under the second, funds for improvement would be paid to the tenant, with the landowner repaying the money in 10 installments, plus 5 percent interest, out of the rent.

Substitutes For Soap

Rome report in New York Herald Tribune, Sept. 27: In the face of the continuing soap shortage, the Fascist party has issued a booklet telling Italian housewives how to launder with substitutes for soap. The substitutes include horsechestnuts, ivy leaves, potatoes, tomatoes, and grass.

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Vol. LXXXIII, No. 2. Section 1 October 2, 1941.

BRAZIL BANS OIL, LARD EXPORTS

Rio de Janeiro cable in New York Times, Oct. 2: Exports of lard and edible oils from Brazil were prohibited by a decree yesterday. Rising prices forced the action. The government has power to seize stocks to force equitable distribution to consumers.

APPLE PURCHASES TO HELP STORM-STRICKEN REGIONS

SMA is expanding its apple purchasing program to salvage a portion of the storm-damaged apple crop in areas affected by recent high winds. Estimates indicate that several million bushels of late apples were blown from the trees in western Kentucky, southeastern Illinois, southern Indiana, northern Ohio, southeastern Michigan, western New York, and northwestern Pennsylvania last week. Prices to be paid will range from 65 cents to 85 cents per bushel, depending upon the variety, extent of damage, and size of fruit.

APPLEBY, EVANS TO REPORT ON BRITISH FOOD PROBLEMS

New York Herald Tribune, Oct. 2: Two officials of the Department of Agriculture, Paul Appleby, Under Secretary of Agriculture, and R. M. Evans, AAA Administrator, arrived in New York yesterday after a month in England. Their recommendations, to Secretary of Agriculture Wickard, they said, would include suggestions such as better packing of cheese and eggs, and more careful canning of pork to reduce damage and deterioration in transit. Besides the packing, Appleby said, a principal problem was that of refrigeration in ships, many of which had to be used to carry food, though they had inadequate icing facilities. Appleby and Evans both reported noticing that slight wounds were slow to heal on British men and women. A doctor told them the slow healing was caused by vitamin deficiency in the diet.

FRENCH RATIONS CUT FATS, CHEESE

Vichy wireless in New York Times, Oct. 2: Citizens' ration cards for October allowed one quarter of a pound less of fatty matter and nearly two ounces less of cheese. Potatoes will be restricted to two or three pounds per 10 days, according to the locality.

Urges Scientists' Aid in Wartime

London cable to New York Times, Sept. 27: All-out aid of scientists to the Allied armed forces against the Nazis was advocated by U. S. Ambassador John G. Winant, so that in the world to follow there would be greater scope for science in "the service of constructive civilization." Mr. Winant presided over one session of the international conference arranged by the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Mr. Winant said: "The first service that might be rendered by science is the integration of scientific method and applied science in support of the Allied armed forces organizing to destroy the Nazi power, which has with relentless efficiency and cruelty degraded the dignity of the individual and attempted to abolish the rights of man. Yet men of progressive minds cannot meet in these troubled times without daring to look beyond war to victory, to peace, and to consider the reestablishment of science in the service of constructive civilization and with a greater consciousness of the need of international science as a servant of mankind."

Japanese Food Control

UP report from Tokyo in N. Y. Journal of Commerce, Sept. 27: The Japanese Cabinet has adopted an emergency food policy, providing for control of production, importation, and distribution of all foodstuffs. The plan provides for storage of emergency food supplies in large cities, in isolated regions and in the smaller islands. Rice had been rationed, but the new plan is extended to wheat and other foodstuffs.

Cattle Rustling a Federal Offense

Editorial in Roanoke Times, Sept. 10: After having three times vetoed similar legislation presented to him by earlier Congresses, President Roosevelt has signed without comment a bill making cattle thieving a Federal offense. It is made the duty of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to pursue cattle rustlers. The new act makes it a Federal offense, punishable by fine of not more than $5,000 or imprisonment for not more than five years, or both, knowingly to transport stolen cattle across State lines, or knowingly to receive stolen cattle or cattle carcasses so transported.

Alberta Ranch Lease Plan

Letherbridge, Alberta, report in Great Falls Tribune, Sept. 21: Under a new cooperative plan between Alberta ranchers and the Department of Lands and Mines, ranchers will pay on a royalty basis instead of a flat rate basis for their leases. When grass is good and cattle prices high, they will pay more for their grass than when the price is low and the grass is endangered by drought and overgrazing. The plan is to be tried for three years.

Cut Cotton Plants Now To Reduce 1942 Weevil Crop

Cotton growers can sharply reduce the 1942 spring boll-weevil crop by cutting the stalks as soon as cotton is picked. Killing the plants destroys the green food that weevils must have, and sends them into winter hibernation in a half-starved condition. Heavy damage in most of the Cotton Belt this year emphasizes the importance of action now to prevent serious losses in 1942. Department entomologists report that boll weevils are still abundant and will continue to multiply as long as food is available. In tests at Florence, S. C., last season, 24 times as many weevils that had food until November 15 lived through the winter as survived when the food source was cut off October 15. In other words, starving the weevils for 1 month in the fall reduced survival in spring by 95 percent.

One-Fifth Japan's Cotton Spindles Are Idle

Tokyo wireless to New York Times, Sept. 28: Two million spindles, or 20 percent of Japan's total, are idle as a result of the cessation of cotton imports from the United States, India, and elsewhere, according to the newspaper Osaka Jiji. The paper also reports that Japanese plans to import cotton from China are opposed by the Federation of Cotton Spinning Companies in China as unfeasible. The federation contends that it would be better to plan to shift the production center from Japan to China, where Chinese-grown cotton can be utilized at a considerable saving.

USDA Mission To Aid Ecuadoran Farm Program

The Department announces the formation of a mission to study the agriculture of Ecuador and to formulate, in cooperation with the Ecuadoran government, a program of agricultural diversification with special emphasis on crops for which there is normally a good demand in the export market. The mission includes Walter R. Schreiber and William A. Larner, Jr., FAR; Ernest G. Holt, SCS; and four other agricultural technicians. The Department has already made preliminary surveys at the request of the Ecuadoran Government of rubber-growing possibilities and general agricultural production in that country. These resulted in establishment of an Ecuadoran agricultural experiment station under Dr. Arthur G. Kevorkian, formerly of the Department, and of the present mission.

Bressman Heads Agriculture Unit

The Division of Agriculture established by Nelson Rockefeller, Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, is headed by Dr. Earl N. Bressman, who has been Assistant Director of FAR. Before that, he was scientific adviser to former Secretary of Agriculture Wallace.

Defense Agencies Cut Paper Use

N. Y. Journal of Commerce, Oct. 1: Reporters covering OPM and other defense agencies yesterday were given mimeographed releases printed on both sides of the paper, and single spaced in many instances. Press information officials explained that OEM was having "delivery date" trouble. The information division has been using about 44,000,000 sheets of paper monthly for releases, and now expects that use of both sides and other conservation measures will cut that figure in half.

Increased Freight Loadings Forecast

N. Y. Journal of Commerce, Oct. 1: A forecast of freight car loadings for the final quarter of the year, made public yesterday by the Association of American Railroads, showed that the combined estimates of the 13 shippers' advisory boards covering the different regions of the country indicate an anticipated average gain over the corresponding period last year of 11.8 percent. On the basis of these estimates, movement of the 29 principal commodities will aggregate 7,052,638 cars in the fourth quarter, compared with 6,307,278 in the final period last year.

Eire To Feel Food Blockade

Dublin report in New Orleans Times Picayune, Sept. 24: Prime Minister De Valera has warned Eire that because of its geographical situation it must suffer the effects of a virtual blockade on food supplies. Tea is rationed at a half ounce per person per week. The sugar ration is one pound per person per week. Coffee is almost unobtainable. Cocoa is becoming scarce. Rice is doled out in small packages. When present supplies of American tinned fruits are exhausted, there may be none to follow. Experts say there will be sufficient wheat to last throughout the winter, though there may have to be a mixture with other cereals to make bread. There is a greater acreage under potatoes than for many years, however, and a good crop seems assured.

British India To Export Surplus Sugar

N. Y. Journal of Commerce, Sept. 29: Negotiations with the International Sugar Council have resulted in permission for British India to export an estimated surplus of up to 200,000 metric tons of white sugars to the United Kingdom and the Middle East for British Government requirements, according to reports received by Dyer & Company, sugar brokers. With the possibility of increased military operations in the Middle East, the British Government may need supplies of sugar from such nearby areas.

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ITALIAN CLOTHING, FOOD RATIONING

AP report from Rome in N. Y. Herald Tribune, Oct. 3: Clothing and textile merchants asked the Italian Government yesterday for relief in meeting taxes and overhead expenses as a result of rationing restrictions on sales. Dealers were informed they must keep their stores open and their window displays intact, but must bar customers from entering to avert "useless requests."

BRITAIN INCREASES SUGAR, FAT RATION

UP report from London in N. Y. Herald Tribune, Oct. 3: Great Britain will increase sugar and fat rations by 50 and 25 percent, respectively, Nov. 17, because of the "most generous assistance" of the United States, the House of Commons was told yesterday. Major Gwilym Lloyd George, Food Ministry Secretary, said the sugar ration would be increased from 8 to 12 ounces a person weekly and the fat ration from 8 to 10 ounces. He said, "we are now in a position to supply ourselves with those things we have had to go without so long." He promised to double meat and treble sugar allocations to canteens in heavy industries after labor had complained that workers could not maintain good health on present rations. About 12,000,000 meals are being served daily from the labor rations.

FARM-HOME HOUR TALKS, WEEK OCT. 6

Among talks scheduled for the Farm and Home Hour, week of Oct. 6, are the following: Oct. 6, Wayne Darrow, AAA, The Food for Freedom Campaign is Under Way; Roy F. Hendrickson and Rowena Schmidt Carpenter, SMA, Nutritious School Lunches; E. W. Brandes, BPI, Agriculture in Latin America -- Rubber on the Rebound, East to West.

USDA ANNOUNCES 1941 RICE LOAN

The Department announced yesterday a CCC loan and purchase program for 1941 crop rice at 85 percent of parity, to aid orderly marketing of the commodity. Rice obtained thereunder may be held in strategic locations in the United States and its territories as a reserve to meet emergency requirements. The loan rates will average about 92 cents a bushel, which represents 85 percent of parity as of August 1, the beginning of the marketing year. This rate is comparable to $3.30 a barrel, or $2.04 per hundredweight. Premiums and discounts for grade and milling quality will be made.

Claims $99,000 In Stamp Plan Violation Case

Following an investigation by SMA into handling of food stamps, the Department of Justice has made demand on John D. Page Sons Company, Inc., a Pittsburgh dairy firm, for $99,050, paid that firm on food stamp claims. The investigation disclosed continued irregularities in connection with the company's acquisition of food stamps and the presentation by this firm from April 13, 1940 through March 18, 1941 of such stamps to the Government for redemption. Previously, the firm had been denied participation in the stamp plan, for failure to comply with regulations.

"Food dealers generally have cooperated and have complied with the regulations, and it is the determination of the Administration to see to it that a few violators do not threaten or jeopardize the program," said Roy F. Hendrickson, SMA head. "Violations of stamp plan regulations will not be tolerated." Action to insure compliance has included use of SMA administrative authority to disallow payment on irregular claims, and to deny violators further participation in the program. Criminal actions have also been instituted.

New Sweetpotato Starch Plant

BACE News Letter (Sept.): The Laurel, Miss., starch plant of Sweet Potato Growers, Inc., operated with the technical advice and assistance of the Southern Regional Research Laboratory, opened the manufacturing season September 9, with the largest crop in its history, in prospect. A new starch blending plant, designed by the Sweetpotato Products, and Engineering and Development Divisions, will be placed in service.

Black Outlines Land Boom Prevention

A program to prevent a speculative boom in farm real estate was outlined recently by A. G. Black, FCA Governor, to representatives of institutions and insurance companies writing mortgage loans made to farmers. "Experience tells us that a major war inevitably brings about violent price fluctuations," Governor Black warned. He drew upon the record of the last land boom to remind that these fluctuations in turn "create serious problems in the field of agricultural credit."

Plywood For Ships

Business Week (Sept. 27): Large-scale production of prefabricated plywood ships was announced recently by a company in the State of Washington. Under the process to be used, curved planks for the sides of the boats will be formed by gluing strips of plywood, as long as the boat and up to 8 feet wide, in a curved form. It is claimed the method will reduce calking to a minimum and the boats can be 75 percent built by unskilled labor.

Post-Defense Agricultural Planning

Roy I. Kimmel, BAE, in Land Policy Review (Sept.): In planning agriculture's place in a post-defense world of plenty, the Department Interbureau Coordinating Committee on Post-Defense Programs has worked out a grouping of States which divides the country into nine regions. In each region one representative of the Department will be detailed to the task of sparkplugging the post-defense program for the region. The first job before the committee is to start laying out a rural works program which will provide useful employment to persons living in rural areas in the post-war period. The program involves three principal types of activity: projects which restore and develop the physical resources upon which agriculture depends (among these will be soil conservation, water development, all phases of forestry, flood control, development of new land areas, and development of submarginal land areas); projects which provide public facilities to rural people, such as roads, rural electrification, county agricultural buildings, improvement of terminal market facilities, quick-freezing plants, and food-storage facilities; and projects that relate to human welfare, such as rural housing, rural hospitals, and recreational centers and facilities.

Tugwell On "Crisis of Freedom"

Rexford G. Tugwell, former Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, is author of "The Crisis of Freedom," in Common Sense (Oct.). The article and two others in this issue are the first of a special series on domestic and foreign policy. The theme of the series is that in defending the democratic way of life we are building the future rather than trying to save the past.

British-Turkish Trade Pact

UP report from Istanbul in N.Y. Journal of Commerce, Oct. 1: A new British-Turkish agreement under which Britain will purchase about $3,000,000 worth of Turkish food products was announced yesterday.

More Electricity, Fewer Phones

AP report in New York Times, Oct. 1: Only one farmer out of four had a telephone in 1940, in contrast to 1930, when one farm home out of three had telephone service, the Census Bureau reported yesterday. The figures were 2,139,194 in 1930 and 1,526,954 in 1940. On the other hand, one farm home in every three was lighted by electricity last year, compared with less than one in seven in 1930.

Rumania to Buy Surplus Grain

Bucharest report to New York Times, Oct. 2: The Rumanian National Institute of Cooperatives has been authorized to buy up all market surplus of grain. The government has taken this step, it was explained, to have a larger supply of grain, particularly in Bessarabia.

Farm Products from French West Africa

The potentialities of French West Africa as a producer of tropical products are indicated in September Foreign Agriculture. Rich in agricultural potentialities, that area once was expected to provide a large part of the needs of France for tropical products. However, despite efforts to expand production during the past twenty years, little progress was made except in the case of oilseeds and cacao. While known mainly for its large surplus output of peanuts, palm nuts and cacao, French West Africa normally is also a surplus producer, although on a relatively small scale, of coffee, bananas, cotton, sisal, gum arabic, gum copal, mahogany and rubber. Since the outbreak of the war, however, exports from that region have been reduced to a fraction of their former level.

Philippine Export Trade Up

UP report from Manila to New York Times, Oct. 2: Despite the loss of European markets and other adverse affects of the European conflict, Philippine export trade in 1941 has shown a marked improvement over the corresponding period last year. According to Bureau of Commerce statistics, exports in the first four months were worth more than $56,500,000, representing an increase of 9 percent over the total for the corresponding 1940 period. Exports to the United States in the four months rose to more than $44,500,000 from a little less than $42,000,000 in the 1940 period.

Ceilings on Paperboard

AP report in New York Times, Oct. 2: Leon Henderson, Price Administrator, yesterday imposed a schedule of ceiling prices on all grades of paperboard sold east of the Rocky Mountains. The prices correspond to those which have prevailed for several months under voluntary agreements with principal producers, he said.

"Revolution in Agriculture"

October Fortune contains a symposium on "Revolution in Agriculture." The articles include: Planning for Plenty -- by giving food to Britain now the Administration finds a lever to crack the farm problem; Mr. Perkins goes to Washington -- as a top New Dealer, from $20,000 a year to Economic Defense Board; Research Means Production -- at Wisconsin it has given the farmer more and better corn, oats, forage, cows; H. L. Wingate, Revolutionary -- in the South he diversified his crops and threw a tomato at King Cotton; Farm Practice -- is constantly being modified by new answers to old problems.

Freedom in Science

Science (Sept. 26): A nucleus of members has been secured for the proposed society for freedom in science, and it is desired to build up a large body of scientists, mainly active research workers, who subscribe to the ideals of the society. Notices of adherence or suggestions of policy should be sent to Dr. John R. Baker, University Museum, Oxford.

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FARM ECONOMIC PROSPECTS BEST IN MANY YEARS

The best economic outlook for farmers in many years was reported today by the Department. Prices, income, and purchasing power were reported at high levels, but costs of production also are rising. Continuing good consumer demand for farm products, increased Government buying of food, and Government loans and other supports to prices were cited in the farm outlook for 1942. Department economists called attention to the "biggest food production program in our Nation's history," and to national goals calling for high record production of milk, cheese, eggs, meats, vegetables, and other foods in 1942. They said that with good weather and the "all-out" cooperation of farmers in making needed adjustments for national defense, the 1942 food production goals will be reached. Secretary Wickard was quoted as saying that the "most urgent need" is for increased production of milk.

EASTERN STREAMS NEAR RECORD LOW LEVEL

Washington Star, Oct. 5: Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia were included in the areas along the eastern seaboard reported by the Geological Survey to be suffering from a protracted drought which had brought streams near the lowest levels in history. A special bulletin said reports from checking stations indicated the drought "continues to affect adversely the stream flow and ground levels throughout New England, parts of New York, New Jersey, Virginia, Ohio, and the Tennessee River Valley."

MORE LEASE-LEND GOODS REACHING GREAT BRITAIN

Copyright report from London by New York Times, in Washington Post, Oct. 6: Although during the past three months more than 10 million tons of goods have been unloaded from ships in British ports, it is only within recent days that food, raw materials, and finished goods from the United States, under the lease-lend program, have been arriving. Some remnants of British purchases under the cash-and-carry plan remain to be delivered but dollar reserves for purchasing in the United States are virtually exhausted. Tools which go directly into the hands of the Government, farm machinery, and other lease-lend goods have to be distributed through private agencies already set up. Steps have been taken to see that normal profits for such handling are eliminated.

To Promote Coriander Growing

Newsweek, Sept. 22: The Aromatic Plants Cooperative Association, to advance the domestic cultivation of coriander, has been formed by the University of Kentucky, National Farm Chemurgic Council, and a distillery. The seed of coriander, an herb of the parsley family, is widely used in this country for flavoring candies, sauces, tobacco products, and gin. It was formerly imported at the rate of 2,000,000 pounds annually, chiefly from Morocco, Hungary, the United Kingdom, and France. There are now in the United States, about 150 acres, on which production this year totaled 40,000 pounds of seed.

State Trade Bar Statutes

T. Swann Harding, Office of Information, in Dynamic America (Oct.) on interstate trade barriers: Already we have 1,500 statutes capable of acting as trade barriers. Of these statutes, about 300 concern vehicular transportation, 240 relate to margarine alone, 135 to livestock and general foods, 200 to milk and dairy products, 140 to liquor, 35 to commercial fishing, 40 to the sale of insurance. Others impede sellers of nursery stock and the activities of transient merchants. Twenty-six States require a license or fee at their "port of entry" for all incoming trucks.

N. C. Eradicating Phony Disease of Peach Trees

Raleigh News and Observer, Sept. 22: Phony disease, 10 years ago a serious threat to North Carolina's peach industry, has been eliminated, J. A. Harris, of the State Department of Agriculture, has announced. He said the disease has not been found in the States for the past two years, although national recognition of absence of the disease must await a clean record for three years. The control program has been conducted jointly by BEPQ and the State Department of Agriculture.

Motion Pictures of Puerto Rican, Cuban 4-H Clubs

Bulletin of Pan American Union, Oct.: The first of the year members of the U.S.D.A. Extension Service went to Puerto Rico to take motion pictures of 4-H club activities there, and also to Cuba, where pictures were made of the annual convention of the Cuban 5-C clubs (Cuba, cerebro, corazon, cooperacion, and civismo). Both these pictures are available to Latin American countries interested in knowing what 4-H clubs are doing under tropical conditions. Spanish publications of Puerto Rico and Cuba, describing the work of the clubs, also are available.

Fertilizer Supplies

Fertilizer Review (July-Aug.-Sept.): At the present time there is an increasing demand for fertilizer, particularly for concentrated superphosphate, for Great Britain, which is not an outlet under normal conditions. The program is requiring increasing defense amounts of nitrogen and the Government is financing the building of several new plants that would not be needed otherwise. If these abnormal demands arising from the war do not reach unexpectedly large proportions, and if ships are available to bring in Chilean nitrate of soda at the present rate, American agriculture will be able to get all the chemical plantfood it needs, even for an expanded production program.

Copper-Sulfur Dust Cures Rose Diseases

E. W. Lyle, Texas Experiment Station, in Southern Florist and Nurseryman (Sept. 26): A new copper-sulfur dust has been receiving considerable attention in use on roses in Texas. Over 38,000 pounds of the material have been applied in its first season of commercial application, and the results to date have been very favorable. The outstanding disease is black-spot. Numerous spray and dust fungicides have been tested at the Tyler branch of the Experiment Station with the conclusion that dust materials are far more practical than sprays for treating commercial fields. The outstanding dust fungicides have been mixtures of sulfur and the so-called insoluble copper compounds. On the basis of cost as well as efficiency in controlling diseases, the material advocated is composed of sulfur and Tennessee Copper 34, a basic copper sulfate.

Flour from Cottonseed

California Cultivator (Sept. 20): Acceptance of a food confection containing cottonseed flour by the Army as a part of soldier's field rations was recently announced by the National Cotton Council, which also said that a nationally known biscuit concern has adopted the cottonseed flour as an ingredient of one of its leading products. Now manufactured and marketed by a Fort Worth cotton oil mill, the product has received endorsement of the Council on Foods of the American Medical Association. At present none of the flour is being placed on the consumer market, the entire production going to bakers and confectioners.

Electric Rat Trap

Florists Exchange (Sept. 27): An electric rat trap is being marketed in Rochester for large warehouses and similar places where rats abound. Smaller patterns may eventually be made. The trap is the invention of two electrical engineers who spent five years studying the ways of rats and modifying their models of electric traps until they achieved one that filled all requirements.

Social Security Extension Asked

N. Y. Herald Tribune, Sept. 30: Extension of social security aid, as requested by the President, would add some 27,000,000 people to the social security rolls. The new beneficiaries would be farm and domestic labor and other non-industrial workers.

Reciprocal Trade Pacts

AP dispatch in Washington Star, Oct. 1: Secretary of State Hull is pushing a program to conclude reciprocal trade pacts with every Western Hemisphere republic. The State Department has begun exploratory discussions with Mexico, Peru, Chile, and the Dominican Republic, in addition to the active negotiations for trade pacts which are under way with Argentina and Uruguay. A supplementary pact also is under negotiation which would make additional mutual tariff reductions between the United States and Cuba, with whom the first agreement under the program was concluded seven years ago. The United States has entered into trade agreements with 11 of the 20 other American republics since 1934.

N. C. Woodland Destruction

Raleigh News and Observer, Sept. 22: Despite all the work being done to promote forest protection and growth, destruction of woodlands continues in North Carolina at an alarming rate, says R. W. Graeber, extension forester. National defense has called for great quantities of timber, and forest owners and operators have responded in a way that will leave a great hole in the productive capacity of the forests. Competent authorities, Graeber said, have estimated that the 1941 timber cut in North Carolina for lumber, veneers, poles, piling, pulpwood, fuel wood, and other products will amount to 1,500,000,000 board feet more than the timber growth for the same period.

Southwest Tung Crop

Beaumont (Tex.) report in Dallas News, Sept. 29: The first commercial tung nut crop for southeast Texas and southwestern Louisiana is estimated at 500 tons. The quality of the nuts is generally good, says the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, which has issued a special report on the tung crop outlook. It believes the two areas should be producing a $5,000,000 tung oil crop from 100,000 acres within the next 10 years, but warns small growers with limited capital and no experience from rushing into tung growing. There is no tung oil mill in Texas but there are two or more in Louisiana and several in the more southeasterly tung-growing States.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXIII, No. 5. Section 1 October 7, 1941.

BRITISH FOOD SITUATION IS IMPROVING

London wireless in New York Times, Oct. 7: Docks of an important British port were piled high yesterday with thousands of cases of lease-lend food -- cans of fish, cases of cheese, evaporated and powdered milk, and other items. It was announced that food rations would be increased and every facility given toward providing special meals for those doing heavy work on docks, and in mines, munition plants, and shipyards. Increased food supplies were specifically credited to "improved conditions in the North Atlantic and the very generous assistance extended to us by America." Another improvement on the food front has been the arrival of farm machinery, the first shipment since last April. The machinery was sent under an allotment system to British farmers who this fall are putting an additional 2,000,000 acres under cultivation.

CHICAGO GRAIN FUTURES RATES ARE RAISED

N. Y. Journal of Commerce, Oct. 7: Members of the Chicago Board of Trade voted yesterday to raise commission rates on grain futures transactions. The commission to non members on lots of 5,000 bushels and multiples thereof, beginning today, will be $15. To members the rate will be $7.50. Members also voted to raise the commission on purchase or sale of warehouse receipts on grain in store at Chicago, to 3/8¢ per bushel, with a minimum charge of $1.

FARM PARITY PRICE BILL INTRODUCED

Washington report in N. Y. Journal of Commerce, Oct. 7: A new bill to establish a definite legal formula for computing parity prices of agricultural products, which in most instances would provide a higher parity price level than is now possible under present law, was introduced in the Senate yesterday by Senator Thomas (Okla.). The measure provides for the use of the semi-monthly average prices of the period 1919 to 1929, multiplied by the all-commodity price index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics based on 1926 prices, in computing present-day parity prices.

Latin American Schools of Agriculture

A directory of schools of agriculture in Latin America, the first publication of its kind, has been completed by the U. S. Office of Education. A limited number of free copies are available from FAR. The publication lists by countries 182 institutions, and also 38 experiment stations. (Agriculture in the Americas, October.)

Bureau Plans Sample Census in Year 1942

Washington Star, Oct. 5: To meet the demands of defense agencies for information on shift and growth of population since start of the defense program, and for dealing with social and economic problems of post-war reconstruction, the Census Bureau is planning a sample census of between 2½ and 5 percent of the population of the United States in 1942. The migration of population since the start of the defense program has exceeded in magnitude similar movements for the preceding ten years, say Federal experts. In rural areas, it is proposed to take a sample count in a certain number of census enumaration districts in each county. The census will aim to provide information on five major subjects: population of the United States, States, and cities; migration and migrants; housing facilities and rentals; potential labor supply; and changes in farm population and agricultural production that have taken place since the decennial census April 1, 1940.

German Textile Rations Cut

AP report from Berlin in New York Times, Oct. 3: German clothing and linen rations soon will be cut to about 50 percent of the past year's amounts, the commentary service, Dienst Deutschland, said last night. The reasons, it said, are that "the supply situation in textiles remains strained and troops fighting in the cold East and warm Africa must be abundantly taken care of."

Italy Rations Potatoes

Copyright report from Rome in N. Y. Herald Tribune, Oct. 4: Potato rationing is to start in Rome Oct. 4, and the Italian public was notified that other foods soon to come under the card-coupon system of distribution will include eggs, milk, cheese, and vegetables. Practically all foodstuffs, as well as clothing and household furnishings, are to be distributed in Italy by ration allowance. The announced potato ration is three-fifth of a pound a person every 15 days. According to Il Giornale d'Italia, the milk ration, when it comes, will probably give preference to children and invalids and may prohibit sales at bars and restaurants.

Champion Duroc Sow

Breeder's Gazette, October: A new all-breed production record was established when the Duroc sow, Grandmaster's Pride, owned by Duane Munter, Coleridge, Neb., qualified for Production Registry with two successive litters each of which greatly exceeded the 320-pound requirement. Fifty-six-day weights of the 21 pigs raised totaled 1,035.6 pounds -- an average of 49.31 pounds.

Disposal of Government-Held Cotton

Editorial in Progressive Farmer (Oct.): While it is important that government-held cotton not be "dumped" on the market, our cotton farmers will make a mistake if they insist that none of this cotton be sold during the war. Several years ago when Oscar Johnston was in charge of cotton loans, he was able to dispose of a large amount of loan cotton without materially lowering the market price. Cotton held by a friendly government has less depressing effect on the market than if held by weakly financed individual farmers. But regardless of by whom held, it is a threat to the market so long as it is in existence. Better let a friendly government sell its loan cotton gradually at a fair price and with proper safeguards to prevent a price decline than to have it remain a threat to future cotton prices for years to come.

Save Aluminum Poultry Bands

Poultry Tribune (Oct.): Due to the shortage of aluminum, only 11,000 pounds of aluminum will be available for the manufacture of poultry wing bands this year, compared with 150,000 pounds last year. This will be used exclusively for wing bands, while manufacturers will use substitutes for the aluminum normally used in leg bands. Used bands which are saved by breeders, hatcheries, marketing agencies, and poultrymen will be collected by the official state agencies cooperating with the U. S. Department of Agriculture in the National Poultry Improvement Plan.

Science Club Movement

Science Service release, Sept. 23: A national science activity, Science Clubs of America, is being sponsored by Science Service. Science clubs in high schools and groups of amateurs in science will be encouraged to join. Members will be of all ages. As the nucleus, there are over 800 junior clubs organized during the past 14 years by the American Institute of the City of New York. These clubs are located in the United States, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Philippines, British West Indies, Alaska, Canada, and Portugal. An advisory committee on Science Clubs of America is being formed.

By-Products From Poultry Wastes — Report on recovery of by-products from poultry evisceration wastes, by poultry husbandry department, University of Nebraska, and Omaha Cold Storage Company, in U.S. Egg and Poultry Magazine, Oct.; Chicken meat scrap was compared with a typical commercial meat scrap and a 1:1:1 mixture of meat scrap, fishmeal, and soybean oil meal which has been shown to be an efficient combination in this ration. There is indication that the chicken scrap was slightly superior even to the fish meal, meat scrap, soybean oil meal combination, but the differences were not statistically significant. Samples of oil were submitted to two soap manufacturers and one lubricating oil manufacturer. All three reported that the oil could be used satisfactorily in one or more of their products.

Rising Trend of Birth Rate — A.M.A. Journal (Sept. 20): According to the Bureau of the Census, after falling steadily for two centuries the long range United States birth rate has turned sharply upward. Provisional tabulations for 1940 showed over 91,000 more births in that year than in 1939. The birth rate per thousand of population jumped from 17.3 to 17.9. Moreover, during the first four months of 1941 about 20,000 more babies were born in the United States than in the first third of 1940. The Census Bureau statisticians predict, therefore, a rate of 18.5 for 1941. If present birth and death rates continue, it is pointed out, the population of the United States will increase approximately 7 percent in a generation.

Plaster Paint — Scientific American (Oct.): Where it has formerly been necessary to wait several weeks for plaster or masonry to dry before an oil paint would adhere satisfactorily to the surface, it is now possible to apply a newly developed oil paint when the plaster or masonry is only a day old. This new paint is so compounded that it is not affected by lime or alkali.

New Zealand Aids Horse Production — Wellington report in New York Times, Oct. 2: The New Zealand Government is promoting the raising of horses for use in areas where auto transport is difficult. An act provides for transport of approved stallions around the country to improve the quality of the nation's horseflesh, the government paying subsidies to carry out the program.

4-H Boys Raise Champion Steer — Baltimore Sun, Oct. 2: The Baltimore Live Stock Show grand champion steer, raised by two brothers, and 4-H Club members, Ned and James Tyler, sold for 50 cents a pound, bringing its owners a little more than $500.

DAILY DIGEST

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FOREIGN TRADE CONVENTION

AP report from New York in Washington Post, Oct. 8: Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles, in a radio speech prepared for the 28th National Foreign Trade convention, declared last night that the period following the war will be fully as critical for the Nation as is the present crisis. He noted, however, that "for the people of this country the supreme objective of the present before which every other consideration must give place is the final and complete defeat of Hitler." A message from President Roosevelt, read by Mr. Welles, said: "The very difficulties created by war conditions for an orderly functioning of the trade process furnish striking evidence of the significance of international commerce for the economic life of nations. The rise in the world of ruthless forces...have rendered the performance of our present task a paramount duty....for those who are primarily engaged in economic activity at home and those who labor in the field of foreign commerce."

DROUGHT IN N.E. PARTLY RELIEVED

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin: Fairly well distributed and mostly moderate showers during the week relieved droughty conditions in the Northeastern States to a considerable extent. They were sufficient to dampen the top soil and materially reduce the forest fire hazard, but not heavy enough to replenish sub-soil moisture or improve the ground water situation. Moderate rains occurred also in western Pennsylvania and substantial to heavy amounts were quite general in the northern Ohio Valley, extending southward to northern and western Kentucky. In other parts of Kentucky, Tennessee, the Atlantic States, from Georgia to New Jersey, and eastern Pennsylvania, droughty conditions were intensified by the absence of material rainfall and prevailing high temperatures.

ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY SURVEY

New York Journal of Commerce, Oct. 8: Predicting that if the St. Lawrence seaway were used by American interests to the extent of 10,000,000 tons of traffic a year, there would be a saving in freight rates of as much as $36,000,000 annually, Wayne C. Taylor, Undersecretary of Commerce, yesterday made public Part III of the department's St. Lawrence survey. This report, which deals with economic aspects of the seaway project, is concerned principally with the possibilities of commercial traffic, and was prepared by N. R. Danielian, director of the survey.

P. I. to Ship Cigar Quota

N. Y. Herald Tribune, Oct. 4: The Philippines expect to ship its entire quota of 190,000,000 Manila cigars to the United States during 1941, although other insular industries are facing a crisis because of the Pacific shipping shortage, the Resident Commissioner to the United States has announced. The limit of 190,000,000 cigars is fixed by the Philippine Independence Act as a step to prepare the American market in 1946.

Report Grain Storage Space Decreasing

AP report from Chicago in St. Paul Pioneer Press, Sept. 28: Although rigid control of the movement of grain to most markets has averted the necessity for complete embargo of receipts, the nation's empty storage space has diminished gradually to near a minimum needed for elevator operations, according to market statistics here. This scarcity of space, due to record-breaking surplus grain supplies, has caused the backing up of an unusually large amount of stocks on farms and elsewhere in temporary storage. Elevator men estimated that about 10 percent of their space must be kept empty so that stored grain may be handled properly.

Maryland Duff Fires

Baltimore Evening Sun, Sept. 29: Duff fires, a new menace to farms and forests of Maryland, have consumed hundreds of acres of land recently, State Forester F. W. Besley said in asking the cooperation of farmers, sportsmen, and others in preventing additional fires. Duff fires, which he characterized as "extremely unusual," differ from brush and forest fires in that the organic matter in the soil itself burns. Usually occurring in dried-out swampland, the fires have spread to wider areas due to the very dry weather of the past three months. A single fire in Kent County consumed 500 acres and burned for two weeks before it was extinguished, said Besley.

Thanksgiving Turkey Supply

AP report from Salt Lake City in New York Times, Oct. 1: Turkeys will be plentiful for Thanksgiving dinners November 20, but may be scarce by November 27, directors of the Northwestern Turkey Growers Association were told yesterday. If the larger consuming States observe November 20 as Thanksgiving, proclaimed by President Roosevelt, there will be a shortage of birds for the rest of the month because of late maturing of this year's flocks.

Wickard and Food-for-Defense Program

Washington Bureau of (Memphis) Commercial Appeal, Sept. 29: Reports received by the Department of Agriculture indicate that Secretary Wickard has done an excellent job in selling the farmers of the country on the idea that "food will win the war." Results from his country-wide tour and contact with farm representatives and farmers from every State are beginning to bear fruit. Secretary Wickard has the faculty of delivering a message which leaves no doubt about the seriousness of the emergency. He is a practical farmer and knows the vicissitudes and disappointments as well as prosperity. Indications are that farmers will stand by the program as long as Secretary Wickard stands by the farmers. He has won their confidence and there is every indication that they will give him full cooperation. There is no doubt, however, that Secretary Wickard has launched the biggest undertaking in the country.

Oil and Cake From Tomato

Foreign Commerce Weekly (Oct. 4): From Brazil it is reported that the composition of the tomato seed has been analyzed, and the oil content found of great edible value, having a high vitamin content. The oil has further possible use as a drying agent and in the manufacture of varnish. Further, 18 percent of the oil can be extracted, leaving a nutritious residue (cake) for animal consumption and organic fertilizer. Estimates indicate that from a crop of 1,000,000 cases of tomatoes, about 100 tons of oil and 600 tons of cake can be obtained.

Fish From Farm Ponds

Editorial in Southern Planter, Oct.: We commend the farm fish pond as an untapped source of food for the family. The Alabama Experiment Station at Auburn has said: "Unfertilized ponds at Auburn produced from 100 to 200 pounds of fish per acre. Properly fertilized ponds have produced as high as 580 pounds of fish per acre. If it is desired to produce more pounds of fish per acre of water, fertilizer should be used." Since publication of this finding, thousands of southern farmers have fertilized their ponds and reaped as much as six times the normal production of fish.

Soil Conservation for October contains an article on farm fish ponds, by W. C. Pryor, of SCS.

New Type Soybean

Farm and Ranch (Oct.): A new type soybean, developed by the Louisiana Extension Service soon may answer the problem of farmers whose lands now lie fallow. The soybean, known as the Magnolia, was developed after eight years of experiments. The variety produces seed in large quantities and is yellow in color.

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Vol. LXXXIII, No. 7. Section 1 October 9, 1941.

U.S. COTTON CROP ESTIMATED AT 11,061,000 BALES

Cotton crop of 11,061,000 bales is forecast by the Crop Reporting Board, as of October 1. This is an increase of 351,000 bales from the September forecast, and compares with 12,566,000 bales ginned in 1940, 11,817,000 in 1939, and 13,246,000, the 10-year (1930-39) average. The indicated yield per acre of 234.2 pounds compares with 252.5 pounds in 1940, 237.9 in 1939, and 205.4, the 10-year (1930-39) average. Most of the increase in prospective production since September 1 occurred in the States adjoining the Mississippi River and in Alabama, where dry weather and high temperatures checked weevil activities and caused rapid development of the crop.

URGE NEUTRALITY REPEAL; ENDORSE TRADE AGREEMENTS

AP report from New York in Washington Post, Oct. 9: A declaration in favor of repeal of the Neutrality Act was adopted yesterday in the final session of the National Foreign Trade Council convention. Delegates representing the Nation's leading financial institutions, manufacturers, and exporters voted full indorsement of the Government policy of naval, military, and economic defense. Continuation of negotiations for reciprocal trade agreements, along the lines set by Secretary of State Hull, was urged because "the principles underlying the trade agreements program offer the real alternative to policies of economic nationalism, which in the past proved so destructive to foreign trade and always resulted in lower standards of living for all."

COMMERCIAL GRAIN STORAGE SPACE 86% FILLED

Commercial storage space for only 65 million bushels of grain was available at terminal markets October 4, reports to the Department indicate. Though about 10 million bushels of new storage became available during August and September, a larger percentage was occupied October 4 than earlier in the season. The largest increase in stocks during September was reported in the Northwestern and Lower Lake markets. For the country as a whole 86 percent of the space was occupied October 4, compared with 83 percent a month earlier.

British to Get Sufficient Fats

London cable to New York Times, Oct. 3: Lord Woolton, Minister of Foods, told an audience of miners yesterday that he aimed to provide no luxury foods for the British people, but "just to keep them fighting fit for inevitable adversity." He promised the workers for this winter substantially the same amount of fat for domestic consumption as the pre-war figure. He added that "it was a deficiency of fats that lost the last war for Germany on the home front."

U. S. Credit for Latin America

AP report from Boston in Washington Post, Oct. 7: Nelson A. Rockefeller, coordinator of inter-American trade, declared yesterday that the extension of credit to Latin American countries was this Nation's best answer to Axis propaganda and threats and to totalitarian promises of a new order. In an address to the Boston Conference on Distribution, a national forum sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, Rockefeller said: "Credit is being put out to bring these nations economic freedom from the economic colonialism of which they have long and not without justice complained. It is being put out not to tie other nations to the control of Washington's political policies or of the financial policies of America's business. It is being put out to create to the south of us, for the lasting and continuous improvement of our prosperity and theirs, a group of great customer nations."

Forestry Train Tours Southeast

Atlanta Constitution, Sept. 27: During October and November a special forestry exhibition train is visiting 58 towns in six States -- small towns, where the people live near the woods and the story of forest conservation needs most to be told. The train, sponsored by the U. S. Forest Service, Extension Service, and the forestry departments of Virginia, Florida, North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama, was made available by the Seaboard railroad.

July Exports, Imports Up

New York Times, Oct. 4: Exports of merchandise from the United States in July amounted to $354,649,000, compared with $316,669,000 in the same month last year, the Department of Commerce reported yesterday in revised statistics based on geographical areas. General imports for the month amounted to $277,847,000 in round figures, against imports of $232,393,000 in July 1940. The statistics indicate an increasingly heavy concentration of exports to British countries.

Farmers and the Post War Situation

Editorial in Sioux City Tribune, Sept. 22: One of the most healthful signs on the horizon at this time is the intelligent and far-seeing interest the American farmer is displaying in his own future. The farmer has bitter memories of the post-war situation that developed in 1921. He is not making the same mistakes he made in the last war period and after it. The present-day farmer is avoiding debts. He refuses to buy over-priced land. He is paying what he owes, buying conservatively. Over and above that, however, he is trying to nail down the kind of price structure he now has. He is going to fight to retain the advantages he now has.

Ban Mexican Farm Labor for Southwest

Dallas News, Oct. 1: Farmers of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona will not be permitted to import farm laborers from Mexico to harvest feed and cotton crops this year. The immigration and naturalization service of the Department of Justice has denied the application of the South Texas Chamber of Commerce, the Dirt Farmers Congress, and other organizations interested in farm labor, for permission to import Mexican farm labor to meet the heavy demands during the fall months. The service, said, however, that permission may be granted for such importation later if a real emergency in farm labor develops.

Blue Bugs May Carry Fowl Paralysis

North American Veterinarian (Oct.): Brown and Cross, at the Texas College of Arts and Industries, have reported some experiments which suggest that "blue bugs" may play a role in the transmission of fowl paralysis. The experiments consisted of controlled exposure tests and inoculation of susceptible birds with a suspension of ground body contents of blue bugs. In the pen exposure tests, 111 birds out of 120 developed paralysis. In the control pens, only one bird out of 126 came down with paralysis. Since the inauguration of measures designed to prevent the recurrence of blue bugs at the college, there has been a marked diminution in the number of cases of fowl paralysis in the college flock.

National Junior Cornhusking Meet

AP report from Indianapolis in Baltimore Sun, Oct. 4: Plans for a national junior cornhusking meet to be held October 20, were announced yesterday by K. B. Cohee, president of the Indiana vocational agriculture cornhusking committee.

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SEEK HIGHER CROP PRICE GUARANTEE

AP report in Baltimore Sun, Oct. 10: A conference of farm leaders from 37 States last night drafted resolutions calling upon Congress to guarantee farmers higher prices than now prevail for many of their products. Congressional proposals to freeze agricultural prices at present levels or to authorize a ceiling on such prices encountered sharp opposition from the sixty-odd governors, State agricultural commissioners, officials of national farm organizations, and Congress members. All took the position that farm prices did not give farmers their share of prosperity created by national defense spending, but said agriculture should have only parity prices. The conference was called by Senator Thomas of Oklahoma, chairman of a special agriculture subcommittee, to discuss price control legislation.

DEMAND, PRICES, INCOME FAVOR 1942 FARM OUTLOOK

The demand for farm products in 1942 will be "even better" on the average than in 1941, the Department said yesterday in its annual outlook report. This favorable demand situation is attributed to: (1) A higher average level of business activity and consumer incomes than in 1941; (2) larger total purchases of farm products under the food-for-defense program; (3) reduced competition from imported commodities which compete with domestic farm products; (4) strong speculative and storage demand based upon the rising general price level. The Department points out, however, that "some of these factors are largely reflected in the level of demand reached by the early fall of 1941, and that the improvement from this point will not be as great as from the average for the year."

FOOD PRICES UP FOR FAMILIES OF MODERATE INCOME

AP report in Baltimore Sun, Oct. 10: The Labor Department yesterday reported a sharp rise in retail food prices between mid-August and mid-September, saying that "the cost of food for the moderate-income family was up 2.6 percent" and affected most of the important foods except fresh fruits and vegetables. At mid-September levels, retail food costs were 110.8 percent of the 1935-1939 average, the highest level since January 1931.

Soil Conservation District Has Game Cooperative

Better Farm Equipment and Methods (Sept.-Oct.): Farmers who two years ago set up a game cooperative in the Sholoh-O'Fallon (Ill.) soil conservation district have found a solution to former differences between Illinois farmers and sportsmen, Morris E. Fonda, district conservationist, said in a recent report. The cooperative, which includes 150 farms comprising approximately 20,000 acres, requires any sportsman desiring to hunt in the area to obtain a permit from one of the farmers in the cooperative and to park his car in the yard of that farmer. Fonda pointed out that the arrangement fits in well with the program of "wise use of every acre," established by farmers cooperating with the district supervisors in erosion control work. Erosion control programs in the district have increased food and cover available for wildlife, now reported to be on the increase. The Extension Service and the SCS cooperated with local people in developing the cooperative plan.

Farm-Home Hour Talks

Among talks scheduled for the National Farm and Home Hour, week of October 13, are the following: October 13, Farm Boys and Girls Produce Food for Freedom, by FFA and 4-H Club members; October 16, The Inter-American Tropical Institute, by Ralph Allee and E. N. Bressman, FAR.

Former USDA Silk Culture Investigations

Though the Department has not had funds or authorization to investigate silk culture in recent years, BEPQ studies in 1884-1891 and in 1902-1908 showed that with reasonable care silkworm cocoons could be produced almost anywhere in the United States and that mulberry, the food plant of the worm, did well throughout the country. The studies indicated, however, that the cost of raising the cocoons and reeling raw silk was entirely too great to compete with imported raw (reeled) silk coming largely from the Orient. Especially in reeling raw silk from cocoons, which requires special machinery and skilled operators, competition with the imported product appeared impracticable, which may have discouraged the development of an American market for silkworm cocoons. No published information on silk culture or mulberry culture is available for distribution by the Government.

Steel Priority Benefits Farmers

The Department points out that the recent OPM order assigning a defense priority rating (A-9) to specified steel products handled by steel warehouses, certain hardware stores, dealers, and jobbers should assist farmers in meeting their hardware needs. M. Clifford Townsend, OADR Director, said that while the order was not limited to agricultural tools or hardware it was of value to farmers. It is good for October, November, and December.

Starch From Potatoes

Editorial in Antigo Journal, Oct. 7: It is hoped that the U. S. Department of Agriculture can do as much for the white potato industry as it has done for the sweetpotato growers (in work on sweetpotato starch). Consumption of white potatoes has dropped 28 percent, on a per capita basis, from what it was 40 years ago. In Maine, prospects are brighter. High-grade Irish potato starches which used to be imported from Germany and Holland ard now made in some 27 plants in the Maine potato country, and in the last year this Aristook starch has been improved until it is whiter than the best Holland starches and brings a better price on the markets.

Urges War Aid in Terms of Butter, Cheese

New York Times, Oct. 3: American aid to Britain makes a much better showing if we stop thinking in terms exclusively of tanks, planes, and guns and begin to take note also of cheese and eggs and dried fruits. These things are important in any war, but especially important in a long war. For a short knockout victory such as the Nazis originally planned, it pays to convert butter into cannon. For a long test of endurance, it pays to convert a good many cannon into butter and cheese.

Increased Farm Equipment Sales Estimated

New York report in Providence Journal, Sept. 29: Farm equipment sales are headed for a new record this year. Although exports will probably fall a bit short of the $74,222,000 of 1940, domestic sales promise to be 20 percent or more larger than last year's total of $488,322,000. Total sales for 1941 should be in the vicinity of $650,000,000, against $562,500,000 in 1940. The 1937 record was $571,200,000. In addition to having more money to spend for equipment, the farmer certainly needs more machinery to meet the call for expanded production.

Japan's Rice Crop Lower

Tokyo wireless to New York Times, Oct. 4: Japan's rice crop this year is estimated at about 295,672,000 bushels, a drop of 8,415,000 bushels under the poor crop of last year and the lowest for the last five years, the Ministry of Agriculture announced yesterday. Minister of Agriculture Ino said the total rice production of the Empire was a little above that of last year, but to provide for an emergency and in conformity with the food storage plan, further restriction of consumption would be necessary. To stimulate rice growing, the government has raised its purchasing price, although the retail price remains the same.

1940 Forest Fire Damage

Unprotected woodland suffered 27 times more burn and 21 times as much damage as protected forests during 1940, according to an annual summary of the Forest Service. Well over half the nation's forest fires occurred on the one-fourth of the total forest area which lacked organized protection last year. Total unprotected acreage was 146,749,000, largely privately owned. Federal, State, and private agencies now protect 435,429,000 acres of forest land, although much of this area still lacks adequate fire-fighting forces and facilities. While only three-fourths of one percent of the protected area suffered from fire damage last year, more than 15 percent of the unprotected area was burned.

World Cotton Handbook

Editorial in Arkansas Gazette, Sept. 22: The three places that especially concern the cotton-growing industry of the United States in these war-disturbed times -- India, Japan, and South America -- receive special attention in the 1941 International Edition, 12th of the series, of the Cotton Trade Journal of New Orleans. The situation in Europe is examined with the possibility in mind of increased trade in cotton after the war. However, the complete picture must take in the whole world. The Edition has articles by economists and experts of the totalitarian as well as the democratic countries on present conditions and future plans.

Promising Sweet Corn Hybrids

Article on sweet corn hybrids in Farm Research (Geneva, N. Y., Experiment Station) Oct.: There is no commercially satisfactory early yellow corn suitable for canning. Seneca Golden most closely approaches this need but has had a mediocre yield. The 1940 trials indicated definite improvement in this respect, but the increased yield may have been at the expense of ear length, regularity of row arrangement, and possibly variation in kernel color. The yellow variety Sachem appeared to have promise as a mid-season variety. It was more uniform than Tendergold, distinctly superior to it in quality, and about equal to it in productivity. The white variety Silver Cross Bantam appeared to have many of the attributes of Golden Cross. Its large symmetrical ears matured a week earlier than the Country Gentleman hybrids, were more productive, and possessed very good quality. A study of these and other hybrids is planned for another year.

DAILY DIGEST

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Press Service

Vol. LXXXIII, No. 9. Section 1 October 13, 1941.

L. F. EASTERBROOK STUDYING U. S. FARM SITUATION

Washington Star, Oct. 12: L. F. Easterbrook, farmer-journalist with the British Ministry of Agriculture, has come to the United States to study the agricultural situation, to express appreciation for the food being shipped to England during the war, and to look forward to the post-war period when farmers of the world may cooperate to help feed the world. Mr. Easterbrook has conferred with agricultural experts in Washington and plans to make a trip through the midwest to visit the areas where crops similar to those grown in England are most prevalent. Characterizing the present world conflict as a "war of liberation," Mr. Easterbrook believes that once the war is over, and Central Europe again can be "put on its feet," there should be a general raising of standards of living throughout the area.

WALLACE URGES INTER-AMERICAN COOPERATION

Washington Post, Oct. 13: Vice President Wallace expressed the hope last night that inter-American amity could be further expanded in the postwar era on the basis of "economic cooperation and frank spiritual comprehension and understanding." "Our Americas have all the material and spiritual resources for building a real new world, just and prosperous," he said in a Columbus Day broadcast to Latin America. "I hope that in the not too distant future this hemisphere will prove to be an example for the entire world, demonstrating in that way that nations of different racial and spiritual stocks can actively cooperate for the human welfare."

"FARMERS, FARM PRICES, AND INFLATION"

The Office of the Secretary has issued a special mimeographed report on "Farmers, Farm Prices, and Inflation." Secretary Wickard, in a foreword, says that "a group of Department economists has been analyzing the effects on farm people of the deflation following the inflation of World War I, keeping track of where farming and industry stand at present with regard to the forces that make for inflation, and giving me their judgments on the action that farm people as a group and farmers individually need to take in order to avoid this time the disaster that followed World War inflation." The special report is a summary of the economists' studies.

"Fag Bags" May Decrease Fires In Forests

Science Service release, Oct. 1: Fag bags for cigarette smokers in the forests were recently given a tryout in the Angeles National Forest in California. The fag bag is a small red muslin sack into which a smoker entering a forest must place his pack of cigarettes. The bag is closed with a drawstring and has a "fire-conscious" pledge tag signed by the smoker. The bag, drawstring, and tag, it is hoped, will decrease thoughtless "lighting up" and automatic smoking in the forests.

Industries Spend Over 117 Million For Research

Science Service release, Oct. 4: Breaking their own records for spending millions to develop new American-made products, manufacturing industries will put $117,490,000 into research this year. Contrary to the wide belief that big companies do all the research work, little and medium-sized companies spend relatively as much as big companies on experiments, tests, and inventing, Robert I. Lund, chairman of the National Association of Manufacturers' committee on patents and research, reports as the result of a study conducted by Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of M.I.T. and chairman of the association's research advisory committee.

Commerce Department Field Service

Washington report in Christian Science Monitor, Oct. 7: The Department of Commerce is trying something new in the way of "store-door delivery" service. Through its field service, its facilities are being expanded to help disseminate useful business information for people who haven't the time to write or to go and get it. Established years ago, the field service has shifted its work as the needs of business have changed Under Secretary of Commerce Taylor, said recently. Now the work has been adjusted to meet present needs of national defense, and the Department is working out plans for a more centralized setup and more efficient distribution of its store of facts. As the first step, the 31 field offices of the Department have been regrouped into 12 regions, with offices in each of the Federal Reserve cities.

Canadian Cheese, Bacon for Britain

Editorial in Farmer's Magazine (Toronto, Oct.): Contracts for bacon and cheese for Great Britain, arranged by the British and Canadian Governments, have been fully met or surpassed. In hogs, the increase meant more than tripling the hog production of 1938, when Canadian farmers provided for export an average of 25,000 hogs a week. This year they are producing for export around 78,000 a week. Cheese exports have advanced from 77,200,500 pounds for the year ended March 31, 1939, to 94,572,000 for the same 12 months of 1940-41.

Frozen Food Locker Meeting — Business Week, Oct. 4, on recent convention of National Frozen Food Locker Association at Omaha: The association is sending a delegation to Washington to try to convince OPM that the locker construction and equipment industry deserves an A-1 priority rating in the name of national defense; is urging passage of H.R. 5532, a bill providing for governmental education and promotion of the food locker plan; and is recommending a locker stamp plan similar to the food and cotton stamp plans. Though the average numbers of lockers in a plant is estimated at 325, Locker Operator (NFFLA publication) reports that a recent survey shows a trend toward smaller plants. Another trend toward small plants is noted in the establishment of many branch locker plants. The processing is done at a main plant, but the wrapped cuts are delivered to small, unattended buildings, patrons carrying keys to the front door as well as to their lockers.

Electric Grass Drying Machine — F. Dossenbach, Director of Swiss Information Bureau, in Farmer's Magazine (Toronto, Oct.): Electrically operated grass-drying apparatus was an innovation in the summer of 1941 in the rich grass-growing sections of Switzerland. Young grass, placed into constantly revolving cylinders, is exposed to a current of hot air and within 10 to 12 minutes is changed into dry grass of a gray-green color. Only 5 percent of the original food value is lost in the artificial drying process, compared to 30 to 50 in ordinary haymaking and storing methods. However, due to operating costs, these electric grass-drying plants are desirable only in times of emergency.

Propose Old-Age Pension Extension to Farmers — U. S. News, Oct. 10, commenting on the President's proposed plan to put farmers, businessmen, and housewives under the Government old-age pension plan, says: The farmer would be affected both as a self-employed person and as an employer of labor, like the housewife. The President's plan calls for the inclusion of 4,500,000 farm workers and 7,000,000 farm operators in the program. Most farmers would be expected to use stamp books, although large operators might elect to use the quarterly return plan that now applies to other employers. Farm workers would get stamp books from post offices, but plans are to enable the farmer to buy stamps from the rural mail carrier. Board received by farm laborers would be considered a proper addition to their compensation.

Food Stamps — Social Service Review (Sept.) reviews a Department of Labor statement (in Labor Information Bulletin VIII, July 1941) on the USDA food stamp program.

Virus May Cause Sheep Balanitis

North American Veterinarian (Oct.): Investigations at the Montana Veterinary Research Laboratory and reported by Tunnicliff and Matischeck point to a filtrable virus as the cause of so-called venereal infection of sheep, a condition that has been recognized in the United States and other countries for over 30 years.

Egyptian Bread Decree

AP report from Cairo in New York Herald Tribune, Oct. 8: Egypt is beginning to feel the pinch of food shortage. Starting Oct. 8, all bread will contain 15 percent rice flour by government decree. The wheat crop this year is below normal and some wheat will be imported.

Crop Prospects Improving

General Crop Report as of October 1: Crop prospects improved about 2 percent during September. In the area east of the Great Plains, warm weather hastened maturing of late corn, soybeans, beans, cotton, and sorghums. There has been little damage from frost, except locally in the Mountain States. The storm from the Gulf caused some damage to rice and pecans and took off some apples and pears as far north as Michigan and the eastern drought slightly reduced prospects for peanuts and sweet potatoes. Most crops, however, are turning out about as expected earlier in the season and it is increasingly probable that yields per acre will exceed the record high yields last year and that aggregate crop production will nearly equal the high record established in 1937.

Urges "Flexible" Hemisphere Trade System

New York Times, Oct. 8: Although the United States has made appreciable progress in efforts to take up the slack in Latin American exports occasioned by the loss of Europe as a market, foreign traders at the National Foreign Trade Convention were warned that in our selling to Latin America we must develop a "flexible" trade system. The warning was sounded by Joseph C. Rovensky, chairman of the commercial and financial division of the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. Admitting that we have virtually a sellers' market with our customers to the south, Rovensky asserted that it would be disastrous for us to "take a high line" and exploit the situation. He predicted that our purchases from the 20 American republics would run more than $1,000,000,000, against a total of $620,000,000 last year.

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Vol. LXXXIII, No. 10. Section 1 October 14, 1941.

FOOD TRADE FACES ALLOCATION IF PRICES NOT STABLE

Chicago dispatch in N. Y. Journal of Commerce, October 14: Food processors and manufacturers face the prospect of direct allocation of Government orders for food supplies as a possible prelude to later outright commandeering, and the food industry generally may look for further price ceiling orders if it fails to do its full share to keep prices stable, Douglas C. MacKeachie, director of purchases of OPM, yesterday told the annual convention of the National Association of Food Chains. Future allocations will include the output of manufacturers, packers, and distributors who operate manufacturing subsidiaries or affiliates, he said. Expansion in the food field will be impossible in most cases during the defense emergency because of stringent priority controls effective on building materials, although provision will be made for wholesale and retail food distributors to get essential repair parts needed to keep operations on a maintenance basis.

ORGANIZE FARM PRODUCTION SUPPLY COMMITTEE

Washington report in N. Y. Journal of Commerce, October 14: Designed to serve as an advisory committee on all problems of priorities, allocations, and related matters affecting supplies for farm production, the formation of the National Committee for Farm Production Supplies was announced yesterday. The committee includes representatives of the major farm organizations and the membership of the Farmer Cooperatives Defense Committee. The new committee, which will virtually eliminate individual requests for priorities and allocations on the part of farmers, farmer cooperatives, and farm organizations, has been approved by Government officials. Representatives of the USDA Office of Agricultural Defense Relations participated in conferences at which the committee was organized. Direction of the committee's program will be under Ezra T. Benson, secretary of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, and headquarters will be established in Washington.

BRITISH FOOD CODE MADE STRICTER

UP report from London in New York Times, October 14: Two new drastic moves in the war against "black markets" have been made by the British Ministry of Food. Traders convicted of an offense against the food code will be put out of business. Lord Woolton has adopted the principle of registration of virtually all food traders, to insure that maximum price and rationing orders are observed. Hitherto licensing has applied only to retailers and to a few wholesalers, chiefly those dealing in cereals, fish, potatoes, and eggs.

Vegetable Situation

With a higher average level of consumer purchasing power in prospect for 1942, vegetable producers in general may expect to receive higher prices and incomes than in 1941, says BAE. Increased plantings of most vegetable crops are in prospect for 1942, and if yields average close to those of 1941, production will be somewhat larger. It is expected, however, that demand will be sufficiently improved to more than offset the influence on prices of the larger supplies.

Wool Consumption Increasing

Rate of mill consumption of apparel wool is about 75 percent above the average of recent years (1935-39), and consumption is likely to be maintained at the present rate during the remainder of 1941 and in the early months of 1942, says BAE. In view of the high rate of consumption and possibilities of delays in ocean shipping, end-of-season stocks in the U. S. likely will be kept considerably above the level of recent years. U. S. purchases of wool in the Southern Hemisphere during the 1941-42 season again will be large, possibly 400-500 million pounds compared with purchases in 1940-41 of around 600 million pounds.

British Land Improvement Aid

Estate Magazine (London, September): For several years the British Ministry of Agriculture has operated a scheme under which farmers could obtain grants for the improvement of farm land, and the new land improvement scheme is even more helpful than the previous one. By the new plan, every owner of land can obtain a grant for improvement. The grant is equal to three-quarters of the cost of the labor required to do the job, provided the work has been approved by the Ministry and the outlay is considered reasonable. A further advantage of the new scheme is that the farmer can do the work himself and is not required to obtain men through a labor exchange as formerly.

Proso Millet in Poultry Laying Ration

Successful Farming, Oct.: That proso can be used to replace yellow corn in the ration for laying hens is shown by two years of results in a feeding trial in progress at the North Dakota Experiment Station. Not only did the hens lay well, but the eggs produced on the millet showed higher hatchability than those produced from a ration containing corn. Other feeding tests indicated that millet can be used successfully for growing chicks.

Great Britain's Food Supplies

Under Secretary of Agriculture Appleby, who, with AAA Administrator Evans, recently returned from Britain, told a Kansas City audience last week that "one thing Britain sorely lacks is food storage space, particularly refrigerated storage space. Even ordinary storage normally used for food has been seriously reduced by bombings in some of the cities." "In Liverpool," he said, "we visited the dock section where there were thousands of importing firms. We were told that only about 3 thousand out of 11 thousand food warehouses there escaped damage by bombs. There, and in other cities where food ordinarily is unloaded, vacant factory buildings are being used to store food. Now, this means that the British can store large quantities of some foods -- grain, flour, canned goods, cured or canned meats -- and other products that don't care about temperature or humidity. But for fresh meats, shell eggs, and fresh fruits and vegetables -- there is only a limited amount of refrigerated storage available. The supplies must be moved in and out rapidly. It isn't possible to build up reserves and hold them. The food has to be kept moving across the water -- and it is a matter of only a few days from the time it docks until it is on the tables of the people who will eat it.....

"When Prime Minister Churchill and Lord Woolton told the people of their country a short time ago that the food reserves were greater than they were a year ago, they were correct -- with limitations. There are larger reserves of such storable foods as wheat and sugar -- and probably canned foods. But the greatest reserve of all on which the British can count is the productive capacity of the United States, and our determination to see that the food is delivered safely."

Soybean Oil in Soap Making

Soap, Oct.: It is not unlikely that soapers will be making a more extensive use of soybean oil in the near future, says American Perfumer. Oils and fats will probably increase in price, even if they do not become scarce due to abnormal war requirements. In making potash soaps, straight soybean oil may be used, giving a light brown or golden soap possessing good washing qualities. Soft soap is also made from soybean oil mixed with linseed oil. Straight soybean oil can be used for making U.S.P. soap preparations by the cold process, to give an inexpensive soap free from objectionable odor.

Airplane in Forest-Fire Protection

Editorial in Great Falls Tribune, Oct. 1: Training of representatives from various forestry schools in the use of airplanes in combating forest fires has been developed at the Missoula office of the Forest Service to a point where it is recognized as a practical and permanent method of dealing with fires in remote points in the great western forests. The Missoula office has devised equipment and methods that are certain to be adopted in other forest areas on an increasing scale. Development of forest protection with aerial units has been carried on conservatively with limited funds. The school for foresters in aerial forest-fire operations held this summer will be an important step in expanding the use of planes by other units of the national service as well as by other agencies interested in forest conservation.

Food Standards Case Verdict

Glass Packer, Oct.: The first food standards case to come before a high U. S. court resulted in a hollow victory for the industry. The court invalidated the standard for dry skim milk, ordering a technical correction, but it upheld the fundamental philosophy of the Federal Security Administration in making the standard. The keystone of FSA policy on formulating new standards has been to promote honesty and fair dealing in the interest of the consumer. The court said this was more important than any mere economic considerations or problems of individual manufacturers, indicating that it will be a difficult task to overturn any of the standards so long as FSA sticks to that policy.

Building Farm Electrical Equipment

Building Electrical Equipment for the Farm, Vocational Division Bulletin 209, has been issued by the U. S. Office of Education. Prepared in cooperation with REA, the bulletin is designed to provide teachers of vocational agriculture with subject matter on building safe and simple electrical equipment for the farm. It gives hints on building a poultry water warmer, ultra-violet reflector, pig brooder, hotbed, stock-tank heater, portable motor, motor dolly, chick brooder, exhaust fan, and room-cooling and garden-irrigating device.

New Black Raspberries

Successful Farming, Oct.: Midwestern fruit growers are interested in three new black raspberry varieties developed and introduced by the New York Experiment Station. The new kinds, Bristol, Evans, and Dundee, are promising both as market and as home varieties.

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Vol. LXXXIII, No. 11. Section 1 October 15, 1941.

U.S.-ARGENTINE RECIPROCAL TRADE AGREEMENT

New York Times, October 15: A reciprocal trade agreement between this country and Argentina, signed in Buenos Aires last night, was hailed by President Roosevelt as an "outstanding contribution" to the reconstruction of peaceful trade not only in the Americas but throughout the world. Secretary Hull said the pact has special significance under present world conditions and predicted that cooperation in the economic field between the two countries will promote close cooperation in other respects. American exporters to Argentina are given assurances against discriminatory treatment on tariffs, qualified, however, by an agreement that so long as the present emergency lasts and proceeds of Argentine exports to the United Kingdom are blocked by that country, the United States will not invoke the most-favored-nation provisions of the agreement on Argentina's imports from that sterling area.

Among the concessions are those benefiting American exports to Argentina of fresh apples, pears, grapes, raisins, prunes, tobacco, agricultural machinery, and forest products. Argentina receives no concession on fresh meats, but duties on her canned meats are cut a third. Argentina's principal concessions include tariff reductions on flaxseed, canned corn beef, quebracho extract, casein, tallow, oleo oil and stearin, cattle hides, and Italian type cheeses.

ASK BAKERS TO CHECK BREAD PRICE INCREASE

Boston report in New York Times, October 15: The baking industry was advised yesterday to cut its operating and distributive costs, but was told by Harold Rowe of OPA that any attempt to effect such reductions at the expense of the consumer by decreasing the weight of its standard products would result in governmental action. Offenders could be barred from getting new equipment in such cases by withholding priorities, John T. McCarthay, of OPM, told the annual convention of the American Bakers Association. Mr. Rowe, price executive in the food and food products section, said that allowances were being made for increased costs and that OPA would continue to "take such steps as are possible to check further advances in these costs."

Rains Improve Top Soil in Northeast

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin: In the Northeastern States, including New England, most of New York, and northwestern Pennsylvania, there has been sufficient rainfall since the first of October to relieve the droughty condition of the topsoil and favor fall-seeded grains. However, the rains were too light to replenish the depleted ground water supply, which continues critical in most places; there are still reports of the necessity for hauling water for domestic purposes. In the middle Atlantic area, including much of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, most portions of the Carolinas, and northern Georgia, showers were too light to be of material benefit and severe droughty conditions continue. Springs and wells are reported low or failing and the ground is much too dry and hard for working. More rain is needed in most of Kentucky and West Virginia.

Cattle Feeding Situation

Developments up to October 1 point to a considerable decrease in cattle feeding during the 1941-42 fall and winter season compared with a year earlier, AMS reports. Most of this decrease will be in the Corn Belt, where shipments of feeders during July to September were about one-third less than last year. Although there may be a rather heavy movement of feeders during the last three months of this year, stocker and feeder cattle probably will not move from producing States in sufficient volume to offset the decrease in shipments during July to September.

Britain Needs More Food From America

London cable to New York Times, Oct. 9: Gradual stepping-up of quantities of food obtained from the United States, until they reach 25 percent of the total of British supplies, was declared to be the British program under the lease-lend act by Lord Woolton, Minister of Food, in the House of Lords, October 8. "It has recently been possible for us to give some encouragement to the people of this country about our food outlook," he said, "but that was only because we felt certain the United States was standing behind us and was going to develop the volume of its aid to us..... Food brought under lease-lend is made available to us by special effort. The types are not those that the United States has been accustomed to export in large quantities, and our needs require special effort on the part of American farmers." Lord Woolton pointed out that even with additional supplies, there was "no danger of our living on a luxurious diet in this country."

Tartary Not a New Buckwheat

Successful Farming, Oct.: A supposedly "new" variety of buckwheat is producing numerous inquiries in New York. Experts at the experiment station find it is Tartary, a variety widely grown several years ago and crowded out by improved kinds such as Japanese and Silverhull. It produces a lower yield of flour with a slightly bitter taste and as feed contains slightly higher fiber content.

Potato Starch, Vegetable Oil Plants Planned

Manufacturers Record, Oct.: A sweetpotato starch plant, a vegetable oil plant, and a research laboratory to be erected in the cane sugar region of the Florida Everglades are highlights of the U.S. Sugar Corporation's 10th annual report, recently issued. The report says the starch plant will have a daily output of 200,000 pounds of starch a day, and the vegetable oil plant is expected to produce annually 5,000,000 pounds of peanut oil and 7,500,000 pounds of peanut meal. In addition, distillation and fermentation facilities will be provided for the utilization of starch wastes and blackstrap molasses. The laboratory will include a main structure and four separate research units.

Cotton Research Activities

Claudius T. Murchison, president of Cotton Textile Institute, in article, Cotton Program to Push Domestic Consumption, in Manufacturers Record, Oct.: The recent merger of the research activities of the Textile Foundation and the U.S. Institute for Textile Research indicates greater coordination of efforts to promote the use of cotton products. The sponsorship of the Cotton Research Foundation by the National Cotton Council is further evidence of growing interest in cotton research. The latest example of this interest is the establishment by the Cotton Textile Institute of a Division of Cotton Research as part of its promotion program. This undertaking differs from the others in that its chief function will be to coordinate the researches of all agencies concerned with cotton.

Corn-Picker Adjustments

Carlton Stoddard, in Successful Farming, Oct.: Claude K. Shedd, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Edgar V. Collins, Iowa State agricultural engineer, ran some "startling" tests last year on corn-picker adjustments. They set three different dates for operation of the pickers and kept a close check on wasted corn. On each date they husked four corn varieties, including hybrid and open-pollinated. On October 28, the range of loss varied from only 2 to about 5 percent. Ten days later, November 6, they found 5 to nearly 13 percent left behind the picker. On November 26, losses ranged from 11 to 24 percent, nearly one-fourth of the crop. The two main conclusions drawn by Shedd and Collins from these tests are: Pick early, as soon as the corn can be safely cribbed; grow a variety suited to mechanical husking; and keep the mechanical husker in the best of operating condition.

Seek Site for Tropical Institute

Pan American News, Sept. 25: Plans for an Inter-American Institute of Tropical Agriculture were conceived several years ago by Secretary Wallace. With Mr. Wallace's progression to the Vice-presidency the project has assumed more ample proportions. To get it under way, Dr. E. N. Bressman, lately of the Department of Agriculture, has gone over to the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, to head up a new division. Sponsors of the original idea for an agricultural institute were embarrassed by the multiplicity of available sites in tropical America, and the difficulty of making a selection. The same difficulty has been encountered in the present program. To look over the ground, a special mission has been touring Venezuela, Brazil, Costa Rica and other countries. It seems certain, however, that -- no matter what official headquarters is decided on -- the work of the institute will be diffused to a large extent, different projects being located in different countries.

Minnesota Farm Machinery Costs

Successful Farming, Oct.: The average costs of owning certain farm machinery have been obtained for a large number of cases in Minnesota by agricultural engineers at University Farm. A mower costing $100 lasted 15 years, was used only 6 days a year, and cost $2.25 a day. Binders costing $200 lasted 16 years, during which time they were used an average of 6 days, and cost $4.20 a day. A silo filler cost $5.85 a day; a corn picker, $7.50; a 2-bottom tractor plow, $1.30; and a manure spreader, 90 cents.

Trends in Hosiery

Underwear & Hosiery Review, Oct.: All-cotton and all-rayon substitute (for silk) styles for hosiery are said to be bringing a more favorable reaction from some retailers than the combination silk styles. Manufacturers report that with all-silk styles still available, stores seem to prefer to supplement their stocks with styles knit entirely of other yarns, as cotton or rayon, as these styles can be featured along with the remaining all-silks and nylons. Fashions created around some of the finer lisle stockings are expected to heighten consumer interest in substitute types. Much attention is being paid to styling and colors of the new lisles.

Wheat in National Diet

October issue of Wheat Studies of the Food Research Institute (Stanford University) is devoted to wheat in national diets, by M. K. Bennett. The position of wheat in national diets is fairly stable but by no means constant, he says. It changes more or less from decade to decade and even from year to year. Changes in per capita daily disappearance of wheat flour might occur either with or without concurrent change in per capita daily disappearance of food calories, or in per capita daily disappearance of calories derived from other cereals and potatoes.

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Vol. LXXXIII, No. 12. Section 1 October 16, 1941.

Food For Freedom in 1942

In a radio address last night, Secretary Wickard said: "We are bolstering the British barrier against Naziism, with guns, and planes, and tanks. But no less important, we are bolstering it with food -- rich, nourishing food -- to strengthen the men who will use the guns and planes and tanks, and to strengthen the civilians, who in modern warfare really are part of the fighting forces. And don't overlook the importance of the food reserves we intend to build up -- reserves earmarked for the people of the conquered countries when the yoke of Hitlerism is finally thrown off....With the passing of each day, the strategic importance of food in this conflict becomes more apparent. The food producers of America -- the farmers -- are increasingly aware of the responsibility which is theirs. They have accepted that responsibility. The foes of Hitler need food -- Food for Freedom. The farmers of the United States will provide that food -- and provide it in abundance."

APPLEBY SAYS BRITISH NEED MORE FOOD

Washington Post, October 16: The United States is now sending the English food supplies equal to about half their prewar food imports each month, Under Secretary of Agriculture Appleby yesterday told the Washington Rotary Club. Appleby, recently returned from England, said "the English never complain, but they need more food." With all the British have been able to do toward increasing food production in their islands, they have been able to boost their prewar production only about 10 percent, giving them 40 percent of what they need, he said.

SAYS RATIONING OF FOOD IN U.S. UNNECESSARY

Chicago report in New York Times, October 16: Although the needs of the British people for American milk, eggs, cheese, and pork products are as vital as munitions for defense purposes, there is no danger of rationing these products in this country, M. L. Wilson, assistant director of defense, health, and welfare services, in charge of nutrition, yesterday told the annual convention of the National Association of Food Chains. Mr. Wilson qualified his promise with the condition that "everybody cooperates" and that "there be no unusual drought or other weather conditions to hinder production."

Farm-Home Talks, Week of Oct. 20

Among radio talks scheduled for the Farm and Home Hour for the week of October 20 are the following: October 20, FFA program from American Royal Livestock Exposition, Kansas City; October 22, Feeding Poultry for Higher Egg Production, by H. W. Titus, BAI, Washington; Agriculture in Latin America -- Have a Cup of Coffee, by J. Barnard Gibbs, FAR, Washington.

Forests and U. S. Defense

Secretary Wickard, in a paper read October 14 before the National Association of State Foresters, at Old Point Comfort, Virginia, said: "The American farms and forests are now up against the biggest job in the history of the Nation -- total defense. We are mobilized for that job. Enough of the right food and enough of the right raw materials are the rock bottom essentials to war-time production, morale, fighting ability. This is our war. It is perfectly plain that it is now Hitler or us. The future of the entire civilized world is bound up in the success of our lands and our forests to produce the vital foods and the vital materials that will insure the efficiency of the industrial workers and the fighting forces that are defending freedom....

"Goals have been set for the forest lands, calling for national production of 14 billion cubic feet of wood and wood products for 1942. This total includes 32 billion board-feet of lumber, 15.8 million cords of pulpwood, 75 million cords of fuel wood, and 2.1 billion cubic feet of miscellaneous products. Goals for naval stores include 400,000 barrels of gum turpentine and 250,000 barrels of wood turpentine; 417,000 barrels of gum rosin, and 698,000 barrels of wood rosin. These 1942 goals for forest products perhaps represent a greater impact on forest lands than the impact of agricultural production goals on farm lands. To achieve these goals for forest products will require the highest degree of cooperation of all those dealing with forests."

Farm Wages Are Highest Since 1930

Faced with a declining supply of available workers, farmers have been able to keep their hired men this fall only by sharply increasing farm wage rates, the Department reports. Agricultural wage rates on October 1 had advanced to 165 percent of the 1910-14 average, 5 points over July 1, 36 points over a year ago, and were at the highest level since 1930. The supply of farm laborers available for hire is reported by crop correspondents to be 25 percent under last year and only 64 percent of normal, more workers being drawn into defense industries by higher wages. Though the supply of farm labor is at the lowest point in 23 years, agricultural production has been stepped up to meet the demands of defense.

Seed Treatment Controls New Barley Smut

The Department has discovered that loose smut in barley may be caused by either of two types of fungus, instead of by a single species as had been supposed. The new type of infection can be treated by simple dust treatments which are inexpensive, easy to apply, and also control other barley diseases. The old type of loose smut infection can be killed only by a hot water treatment that is difficult to apply and not generally practical for barley growers. Dr. V. F. Tapke has perfected a method of germinating the smut spores so that plant pathologists can identify these smuts definitely in seed fields and can tell before seed is planted whether a simple dust treatment of the seed is likely to be worthwhile. The test takes only 6 to 8 hours.

Lamb Feeding Situation

Information early in October indicates some decrease in lamb feeding during the 1941-42 season, compared with record high numbers fed last year, AMS reports. Shipments of feeder lambs and sheep into the Corn Belt States during July to September were about 10 percent less than last year. This decrease is due, in part, to excellent range feed conditions in the Western States that have tended to delay the movement into the Corn Belt. However, it is not probable that a heavy in-movement in October and November can bring the total up to last year, since October in-shipments last year were very large.

Fats and Oils Situation

A high level of domestic demand for fats and oils and substantial purchases of lard for export are in prospect for 1942, reports BAE. Prices for fats and oils probably will average higher next year than this. Government measures, however, may tend to hold advances from present levels within narrow limits.

Hatching Eggs Go To Argentina By Air-Express

To overcome transportation difficulties that have retarded shipment of improved U.S. poultry stock to South American countries, the Department is cooperating in the shipment of hatching eggs by air express. As a test, two small shipments have been made to Argentina, where the spring hatching season is under way. In each shipment were 100 Rhode Island Red and 100 White Leghorn eggs, to be used in experimental breeding of the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture. The eggs were sent in response to a request from Felipe A. Espil, Argentine Ambassador to the U. S.

American Seeds For Britain

Florists Exchange (October 11): Thanks to the generosity of sympathizers, the American Seeds for British Soil Committee recently sent more than 17 tons of vegetable seeds and 50 tons of fertilizer to Great Britain.

Foreign Trade in Farm Products For Year 1940-41

Annual Supplement on Foreign Crops and Markets: An eventful year for agriculture in foreign trade terminated June 30. Farm exports were the lowest in 69 years, representing only 9 percent of all exports. For only the second time on record, agricultural exports were exceeded in volume by imports of farm products similar to those grown in the United States. The ratio of imports to exports in 1940-41 stood at 179, compared with an average of 69 for the 10 preceding years. This, moreover, was due almost entirely to the decline in exports, for the volume of imports was approximately the same in 1940-41 as in the past 10 years.

Milk Prices Up in City Markets

Fluid milk markets continue to be featured by rising prices, AMS reports. Thirty-four of the 110 markets reporting in October showed prices higher than a month earlier. Approximately three-fourths of the markets normally reporting raised prices to producers or consumers, or both, sometime during August, September, or October.

Drought Relief Through Water Conservation

Wesley R. Nelson, Bureau of Reclamation, in October Reclamation Era: A notable advance toward placing agricultural economy of the Western States on a permanent foundation has recently been made through the establishment of the water conservation and utilization program. This program envisages the participation of several Federal agencies (Interior, Agriculture, PWA, WPA, RFC, and CCC) in an attack from several angles on the problems of drought relief and of rehabilitation of communities in the arid and semi-arid regions. A considerable part of the Water Conservation and Utility Act applies to activities of the Department of Agriculture, which is expected to arrange for settlement of the projects on a sound agricultural basis, to advise settlers in farm practice and efficient land use, to acquire agricultural lands within the projects, and to arrange for improvement of the lands, Nelson says.

Wool from Soybeans

Southern Seedsmen, Oct.: Soybean wool, used in the making of plastic fiber panels and upholstery padding in automobiles, may increase the demand for soybeans. Soybean wool is a soy protein fiber recently developed by R. A. Boyer, in charge of the research laboratory established by Henry Ford for study of soybeans. When sprayed with rubber, it results in springy, durable padding.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXIII, No. 13. Section 1 October 17, 1941.

RADIO PROMOTES "GOOD NEIGHBOR" RELATIONS

Washington Post, October 17: Vice President Wallace complimented the radio industry last night for playing a "most important part" in the "phenomenal progress which we have witnessed in our inter-American relations during the last decade." Mr. Wallace spoke at ceremonies broadcast from the Hall of the Americas at the Pan American Union, where a testimonial was given by the Latin-American diplomatic corps to the National Broadcasting Company, in recognition of NBC's "Good Neighbor" series of programs.

BRITAIN TO BUY ARGENTINE SURPLUS BEEF

AP report from Buenos Aires in Washington Post, October 17: The Argentine Government announced yesterday it had agreed to sell Britain nearly 500,000 tons of beef, representing the entire exportable surplus for the next 12 months. The agreement provided increases from 7 to 10.7 percent over previous prices. The government said the increase was to eliminate the necessity of continuing to subsidize meat producers. Negotiations are still pending on the purchase of an additional 50,000 tons of preserved meat.

AGRICULTURAL FUTURES PRICES DRIVEN LOWER

New York Journal of Commerce, October 17: Apprehension over Far Eastern developments caused a wave of speculative liquidation in commodity futures markets yesterday. Hitting most agricultural futures markets in an already weakened and rather vulnerable position, selling by commission houses drove prices sharply lower when word was received that President Roosevelt had summoned his war chiefs for an immediate conference on the situation. Volume of trading was heavy in most markets.

RECORD NUMBER OF FALL-HATCHED CHICKS ARE BEING RAISED

The Department reports that production of baby chicks by commercial hatcheries in September set a new high record for the month. Production is estimated at 23,058,000 chicks, 79 percent more than in September last year, and 63 percent above the previous high output in September 1939. Many poultrymen are raising fall-hatched chicks for the first time.

Says British Are Well Nourished

Atlantic City report in New York Times, October 16: There is no evidence that the British people are suffering in any degree from malnutrition, Sir Wilson Jameson, of the British Ministry of Health, yesterday told the convention of the American Public Health Association. Describing the food rationing system and the communal feeding canteens designed to insure equitable distribution of available supplies, Sir Wilson said that "for a beleaguered citadel we are being very well fed indeed."

Plant Resistance To Insect Attack

Botanical Review (Oct.) contains an article on resistance of plants to insect attack, by Ralph O. Snelling, of BPI. The article includes a bibliography and a table of plant characteristics suggested as influential in resisting insect attack. Available literature includes records of resistance to insect attack in nearly 100 plant species, involving over 100 insect species, says Snelling.

Wildlife Border For Farms

V. E. Davison, SCS (South Carolina), in Journal of Wildlife Management (October): Methods of land management are changing and the wildlife border is becoming a part of the new land-use patterns of southeastern agriculture. Particularly needed between woodland and cropland, the vegetated strip is designed for multiple use, including turnrow, erosion control, water disposal, control of trees, beauty, and wildlife food and cover. The recommended border for the Southeast consists of two parts, a strip of Lespedeza sericea next to the crops and a strip of shrubby vegetation next to the woods. Food is also provided by woody plants such as the sumacs, huneysuckle, grapes, haws, blackberries, and dogwoods, and cedars, wild cherry, and persimmon, of low growth. Increased interest in wildlife results from this tangible contribution to better farm management.

Full Cars Aid Grain Storage Capacities

Grain & Feed Journals, October 8: Grain shippers who load every car to within 24 inches of the roof — just enough for a sampler to gain admission to the loaded car -- help to increase the supply of empties and expedite getting cars for loading when the trade needs them. Loading a 100,000 capacity car with 50,000 or 60,000 pounds shrinks the transporting facilities of the railroad and prevents other shippers from getting empties when they desperately need them.

Cattle Feeding Situation

Developments up to October 1 point to a considerable decrease in cattle feeding during the 1941-42 fall and winter feeding season compared with a year earlier, AMS reports. Most of this decrease will be in the Corn Belt, where shipments of feeders during July to September have been about one-third less than last year. Feed supplies in the Corn Belt are ample to abundant, but feed costs are considerably higher than a year ago. With prices of feeder and stocker cattle averaging 15 to 20 percent above last year, and finished cattle selling at or below last year's prices, feeders have tended to defer their purchases.

Sees Need for Small Soybean Extraction Plant

Grain & Feed Journals, October 8: L. K. Arnold, chemical engineer of Iowa State College, asserts there are definite possibilities in a small soybean extraction plant with capacities ranging from 5 to 25 tons of soybeans a day. The smallest solvent type processing unit now used commercially has a capacity of 60 tons. Arnold said the engineering experiment station of the college now has in process of development a small capacity plant. Tests on this small unit have utilized trichloroethylene as a solvent because it is nonexplosive, is easy to remove from the oil and meal, and is available in quantity.

Bad Business to Save Seed From Hybrid Cornfield

Farmers who select ears from fine hybrid fields this fall for 1942 seed are courting a decline of about 15 percent in next year's corn yield. Tests by the Department and several State experiment stations show that hybrid corn saved for seed a second year usually produces a crop no better in yield than ordinary open-pollinated corn. Most of the other good characteristics of hybrid corn -- strong stalks, insect and disease resistance, uniformity, etc. -- are lost in the second year. Good hybrid seed ($5 to $7.50 a bushel) costs about 75 cents an acre to plant. Therefore, if the hybrid yields but 1 extra bushel of corn per acre, it pays for its own seed costs.

Washington State Reforestation

Spokane report in Mississippi Valley Lumberman, October 10: At a recent meeting in Washington plans were made for the State's second perpetual forest program. It was also reported that during the next five years the West Coast Lumbermen's Association will grow 25,000,000 fir, hemlock, cedar, and spruce seedlings at a new nursery, the first cooperative tree nursery in the country. At the same time the Forest Service is stepping up reforestation, a crew of blister-rust workers recently having started planting 100,000 white pine seedlings in the Clearwater white-pine belt. Three National Forests are involved in the planting program.

Sheep Grazing Fees Under Taylor Act

National Wool Grower, September: The long-awaited results of the Federal range survey, to determine grazing fees under the Taylor Grazing Act, for the 10 Western States, were announced recently at a meeting by M. H. Saunderson, Forest Service economist, working for the grazing service of the Department of the Interior. The proposed cost of grazing one sheep for one month on Federal range, based on 5-year (1935-39) values adjusted to 10-year production for the States, as brought out by the survey, are: Colorado, 3.7 cents; Wyoming, 3.5 cents; Montana, 3.3 cents; Idaho, 3.3 cents; Oregon, 3.1 cents; California, 2.8 cents; Utah, 2.7 cents; Nevada, 2.5 cents; Arizona, 1.6 cents; and New Mexico, 1.5 cents.

Free Storage of Wool by Railroads

National Wool Grower, September: Early this year the Interstate Commerce Commission held hearings at Salt Lake City, Portland, and San Francisco in regard to the free storage of wool extended by various railroads to growers or buyers. The examiner in charge of the proceeding, Mr. Trezise, has recommended to the commission that the free storage facilities be permitted to continue.

"Box" Silo Substitute for Trench

Coastal Cattlemen (Oct.): A "box" silo, built above ground, is a substitute for a trench silo in regions where the land is more or less level and keeping water out of a trench is a problem. E. R. Eudaly and M. R. Bentley, of the Texas Extension Service, suggest two methods of constructing such a feed container: One -- build two parallel levees of dirt any height and width desired, then fill between the levees with silage and cover with earth. This sometimes is called a trench silo upside down. Two -- in places where lumber is cheap it might be advisable to build the upside down trench out of lumber and tar paper. This is called a "box" silo.

Vegetable Dehydration Experiments

California Cultivator (Oct. 4): The California College of Agriculture has been studying vegetable dehydration, to provide information for possible food-for-defense use. The studies show that one of the most important factors in success is the blanching of the prepared raw vegetables in live steam for a long enough period to destroy enzymes responsible for undesirable changes in flavor, texture, color, and odor of the dried product. Thorough steam blanching also partially precooks the vegetables and makes the subsequent cooking of the dried product rapid. Unblanched dried vegetables soon develop haylike flavors and odors and are extremely tough. Finely sliced or shredded vegetables dried much more rapidly than those cut in thick slices or cubed. Steam blanching removes very little of the soluble vitamins, minerals, sugars and other water soluble food values.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXIII, No. 14 Section 1 October 20, 1941.

EXTEND SLIDING SCALE CEILING TO CARDED COTTONS

New York Journal of Commerce, October 20: The textile "sliding scale ceiling" formula, which has been applied by OPA to print cloths and combed yarns, was today extended to cover all major divisions of carded yarn cotton goods, in a wide range from coarse bagging and tough work clothing denims to fine count broadcloths, Leon Henderson, administrator, announced. Effective tomorrow, the schedule brings eight new carded yarn cloth types under ceilings, while transfer of five classifications from the original gray goods schedule, together with previous OPA ceilings, extends the formula tying maximum goods prices to fluctuations in the spot raw cotton market to cover approximately two-thirds of all primary cotton textiles manufactured in the United States, Henderson estimated.

TO CONFER ON BURLAP PRICE STABILIZATION

New York Journal of Commerce, October 20: Representatives of the Indian jute industry, the British Government, and the Government of Bengal will meet tomorrow at Delhi, India, to discuss the possibility of cooperation with the United States for stabilization of burlap prices. The principal difficulty encountered by the American Government in setting a maximum spot selling level here has been the inability of OPA to control replacement costs of the jute fabric.

BRITISH-OWNED AUSTRALIAN WOOL PURCHASED

New York Journal of Commerce, October 20: Federal Loan Administrator Jesse Jones announced over the week-end the purchase by Defense Supplies Corporation of about 176,000,000 pounds of British-owned Australian wool. The wool is part of the 250,000,000 pounds of British-owned Australian wool being stored in this country. About 126,000,000 pounds have already been shipped. The price to be paid for the wool is 10 percent under the present commercial issue price f.o.b. Australian ports, or about 26 cents per greasy pound on the wool already shipped.

Ohio Livestock Laws Improved

Ohio Farmer (Oct. 4): Changes in Ohio's livestock marketing law to provide increased protection to producers and sellers of livestock and to help curb livestock diseases became effective September 4 and will be placed in full operation February 1. The amendments tighten up the present provisions on weighing, and strengthen provisions relative to bonding of dealers and brokers to guarantee to the farmer that he will receive pay for his livestock. Sanitation provisions in the amended law are expected to help considerably in checking the spread of livestock diseases.

U. S. Attacks Fair-Trade Legislation

Business Week, October 11: In the ten years since California pioneered the fair-trade law, permitting the establishment of minimum wholesale and retail prices on branded merchandise, 45 states have put similar statutes on their books. But neither the Federal Trade Commission, nor the Department of Justice, nor the President himself has ever regarded this mass of legislation (tied together via the Miller-Tydings enabling act of 1937) as anything but a legal "hocus-pocus" to keep prices and profits up. Now the first major attack on the fair-trade structure is in the making in Newark, N.J. There the Department of Justice has amassed documents, correspondence, etc., subpoenaed from 14 national drug organizations and over 100 local and state groups, and is showing these to a federal grand jury in the hope of obtaining indictments.

Hop Industry In New York

Rural New Yorker (Oct. 4): Hop growing in New York State has increased from 29 acres producing 14,000 pounds in 1933 to 210 acres with a production of 205,000 pounds in 1940. The Geneva Experiment Station has been engaged in variety and cultural tests with hops and in experiments on the control of diseases of hop vines, both in experimental hop yards near Waterville and in commercial yards. "State" hops, as the New York product is called in trade, are regarded by brewmasters as approaching or equalling European hops, the supply of which is now shut off.

U.S. Imports Of Canadian Peat Restricted

New York Journal of Commerce, October 20: Acting at the request of OPM, the Canadian Government has agreed to prohibit the exportation of peat to this country except on United States Government order, it was announced yesterday. Substantially all the Canadian output is needed for the production of magnesium. Canadian peat also is used by vegetable growers for packing during shipment, as a flooring for chicken runs and stables, and similar purposes.

Priority Aid For Highways

New York Journal of Commerce, October 20: Priorities Director Donald Nelson over the week-end made available a preference rating order, establishing control procedures for the assignment of priority assistance to approved road-building projects. The order followed a letter to Public Roads Commissioner Thomas MacDonald outlining a broad plan of assistance to highway construction projects.

Land-Use Planning Committees

Writing in the New Republic (October 20) on the land-use planning committees, John D. and Ewart Lewis say: "A revived town-meeting democracy is the goal at which the whole program aims. It is too early to say whether it will be achieved. But at the very least the land-use planning effort has brought government agencies into contact with one another and with the local knowledge and viewpoint of farmers, and these farmers in turn are learning to understand the way in which the official approaches a problem. It can mean more than this, and does in many of the counties. Like the Extension Services, it may quietly become a major factor in shaping a new pattern of farm life...If democracy can be fused with the administrative stage of planning, we shall have a tough shield against dictatorship."

Expect Record Milk Production

Milk production in 1942 is expected to be the largest on record, BAE reports. The increase in production will result partly from the expected 3 percent increase in the number of milk cows on farms. Further increase will need to come from increased milk production per cow above the record high level of this year. Because of increasing consumer incomes and prospective large exports under the lend-lease program, prices of dairy products probably will average higher in 1942 than in 1941. The increase in prices, however, may be less than the increase from 1940 to 1941.

Traveling Quick-Freezing Food Unit

Food Industries, October: A mobile quick-freezing unit developed by the TVA and the Georgia Experiment Station was used during the 1941 season in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, and Virginia, freezing strawberries, apples, peaches, youngberries, and chickens in cry-o-lac bags. A special frozen-peach package, called an "institutional pack," is designed for hotels, restaurants, and hospitals, and adapted to making pies, cobblers, tarts, and salads. Over 200 pie-cooking tests were made to determine the best process for quick-freezing peaches for this pack. Frozen peaches have long been used in ice cream, but heretofore pie bakers have used them but little because of the difficulty of maintaining the natural flavor, color, and texture of the fruit in pies. Though the TVA quick-freezing unit is an experimental one, it is believed to be adaptable to commercial use.

Government and The Food Supply

Roy F. Hendrickson, SMA Administrator, speaking October 20 to the National Conference of Catholic Charities at Houston, Texas, said: "The national consciousness as to the need for better nutrition among all our people has been awakened by the defense effort. We have of course been shocked by the fact that nearly half of the 2,000,000 young men summoned for military service were found to be unfit for duty. And many of the deficiencies which these men had could have been prevented with the right kinds of food. For this national weakness in our health defenses we stand indicted. Unless we are aggressive in dealing effectively with this problem of nutrition, we as a nation are marked for decay. Now, while we have the opportunity, is the time to act. We need to see that the nutritional needs of all our people take precedence over any other consideration in our economy. As a nation we can afford to build the health of our people as well as we can afford to spend billions for defense armaments. We must be bold enough and imaginative enough to develop and put into effect plans to build better nutrition. The increased food production now being brought about by our farmers is a major step toward improved national health."

Trade Mark For Lancashire Cotton Products

Manchester, England, cable to New York Journal of Commerce, October 20: The Cotton Board and the Shirley Institute have cooperated to establish a quality trade mark designed to give prestige to high-grade Lancashire products. The first specification to be established under standards for the new trade mark will cover new types of cotton canvas and ducks. A gratifying feature of the new raw cotton prices is the fact that American middling cotton was raised only 4points, although prices in the United States advanced 5 1/4 cents a pound between March 31 and October 10.

By-Products Of Wool Grease

Bradford, England, cable to New York Journal of Commerce, October 20: The Sewage Department, which specializes in the utilization of grease from wool, announces it has patented five new products within the past 12 months. These include Grujol, a crude soap; Varwolax, a drying oil; Scrojol, a pure anhydrous soap powder; Lanalose, a new paint medium; and Lanaloid, a semi-plastic compound.

New FSA Regional Director Named

Charles G. Brannan has been appointed regional director of FSA Region Ten, with headquarters at Denver, Colorado, to have charge of activities in Montana, Wyoming, and all of Colorado except the 14 southeastern counties.

DAILY DIGEST

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OUTLOOK FOR 1942

BAE, in the monthly Demand and Price Situation, says: The demand for farm products in 1942 is expected to be greater than in 1941, although the improvement will not be as marked as it was this year over 1940. A higher average level of business activity and national income will stimulate the consumer demand for foods and textiles. Larger total purchases of farm products under the food-for-defense program will further improve the export situation. The strong speculative and storage demand which has been an important factor in the demand for farm products in 1941 probably will continue. This outlook assumes continuation of the war, an expanded defense program, and broadening Government controls over production and prices.

SAYS LUMBER, BRICK MATERIALS ARE PLENTIFUL

AP report in New York Times, October 21: Donald M. Nelson, director of SPAB, said yesterday that the board's recent order restricting private building construction was not a blanket stop order and that structures which did not call for using such critical materials as steel, copper, and brass might be built as freely as a year ago. In reply to a request from Senator Wiley of Wisconsin for clarification of the order, Mr. Nelson said: "Such basic building materials as lumber, brick, stone, mortar, concrete, and the various clay products are not particularly scarce, are not under priority control, and hence may be obtained freely for any building job whatever."

DOMESTIC WHEAT MARKETS RALLY

New York Journal of Commerce, October 21: Influenced by the possibility of Russia buying United States wheat under the lend-lease program, domestic wheat figures rallied approximately 1 cent a bushel from the lows, due to commission house buying yesterday. Despite the latter support, the market was still easy as a result of early liquidation. At Chicago futures ended 1 5/8 to 2 cents lower, Minneapolis closed 1 3/4 to 2 cents lower, and Kansas City finished 1 7/8 to 2 1/4 cents net lower.

Argentine Trade Pact

Baltimore Sun, October 15: It is true that the trade agreement with Argentina shows the marks of the emergency. The American concessions on Argentine wines, liquors, European-type cheeses, etc., are qualified by a provision that they may be suspended with the resumption of normal post-war trade with Europe. Our own towering grain surpluses have made it impossible to help Argentina much here. On her side, Argentina stipulates that a certain proportion of the concessions granted this country will become effective only after her customs revenue has reached the average for the pre-war years 1931-40. It is probable, however, as the letters exchanged by President Roosevelt and Acting President Castillo suggest, that the agreement is important less for its details than for its implications.

Committee List

The Department Library has just issued the first list of committees and committee memberships officially recognized by the Department.

Says Food May "Write the Peace"

Birmingham Age-Herald, October 6: In emphasizing his belief that food will win the war, Secretary of Agriculture Wickard is correct, we believe, in stating that the peace, too, may be won by food. Certainly, when the war in Europe is over, the hungry people of the whole continent will be vitally interested in feeding themselves. It is not, perhaps, contradictory to humanitarianism to say that the United States will be able to speak weighty words at the peace table by using food as a weapon of pressure. Indeed, the bread-and-meat policy will surely be a strong factor in definitely eliminating those groups in the post-war world who will seek to reestablish boundaries in accordance with selfish rather than sound considerations.

Aims of British Cotton Board

Manchester (England) report to Christian Science Monitor, October 14: To secure the most profitable use of labor, machinery, and capital in the Lancashire cotton industry, in order to meet adequately the vastly increased export demand, is the chief aim of the Cotton Board, Government-sponsored committee set up here. Chairman E. Raymond Streat has outlined the board's policy as a campaign on the following six fronts: the formation of international trade agreements with facilities such as export credits insurance; foreign exchange and a taxation policy to facilitate plant modernization; continuance of price control after the war; a commercial policy to meet the post-war problems; exploitation of technical progress through research as exemplified by the work of the Shirley Institute at Manchester; and improvement of labor arrangements, sales promotion, and market research.

"Para-Ration" for Army

Chicago report in New York Journal of Commerce, October 17: The new experimental Army ration for parachute troops, which packs a maximum number of calories in a minimum number of ounces and square inches, was introduced yesterday as a vest-pocket "para-ration." The concentrated foods are packed in three separate boxes, for breakfast, dinner, and supper. Each meal contains the necessary elements to give the proper balance of carbohydrates, proteins, and fats, and proper supply of vitamins. The para-ration (one day's food) weighs only 32.86 ounces, yet contains 3,726 calories.

Texas Farm Migration

Amarillo (Tex.) News, October 9: Using past experience as a yardstick, an estimated 82,000 of the 204,402 tenants who now till Texas soil will move to another place this fall. Tyrus R. Timm, farm-management economist of the Texas Extension Service, suggests that although this mass exodus of 40 percent of the farm tenant population probably will shift only a few miles, "tenant mobility in general certainly is disadvantageous to both landlords and tenants." He points out that necessity for soil conservation and soil improvement on most farms, need for crop rotation over a period of years, and the importance of introducing, or adding, livestock on tenant farms make it all the more important that tenants remain on the same farm for several years.

Moore to Assist With N.P.I.P.

Frank E. Moore, chairman of the poultry husbandry department and extension poultryman of the North Dakota Agricultural College has been appointed as poultry coordinator to assist in the administration of the National Poultry Improvement Plan. Moore, whose appointment is effective October 24, succeeds J. D. Sykes, who resigned several months ago.

K.C. Commission Fee Decision Sustained

AP report in Kansas City Star, October 13: The Supreme Court refused yesterday to reconsider its May 26 decision sustaining an order issued by Vice President Wallace while Secretary of Agriculture, which reduced the maximum fees permitted commission agents at the Kansas City stockyards from 1933 to 1937. A rehearing was sought in the long-litigated case by a group of commission men who had contended they were entitled to $586,093 of funds impounded in the federal district court pending a decision of the legality of Wallace's order.

Irish Livestock For Britain

AP report from London in New York Herald Tribune, October 16: Irish agricultural officials have arrived in London to complete arrangements for shipping $60,000,000 worth of Irish cattle and sheep to Great Britain. The deal was said to be the largest sale of Irish livestock ever arranged. A surplus of 450,000 head of cattle has been accumulated in Eire since exports were almost stopped nine months ago as a result of a hoof-and-mouth epidemic.

"Self-Cleaning" Paint Developed

Agricultural News Letter (Du Pont) Sept.-Oct.: Research in paint and pigment technology has resulted in the development by Du Pont chemists of improved house paints which clean themselves under the action of rain, wind, and sun. As these paints age, they accumulate a fine powder on the surface. Heavy rains wash it away. Under normal conditions, dirt which settles on the surface is also washed away with the powder, exposing a fresh, clean surface. The "self-cleaning" process begins after the paint starts to powder or chalk and may happen in a few months under ideal climatic conditions. The cleaning process is gradual and does not affect the wearing qualities of the film.

Committee on Post-War Problems

Agricultural News Service, Oklahoma A. and M. College, October 20: Appointment of a special committee to study war problems and what educational institutions can do towards their solution was announced this week by Dr. Henry G. Bennett, president of the college. The committee is composed of: Dr. Raymond D. Thomas, dean of commerce; Dr. Schiller Scroggs, dean of arts and sciences; Dr. N. Conger, dean of education; Roy H. Tompkins, director of educational extension; and Dr. William H. Sewell, professor of rural sociology. Dr. Bennett points out that there will be more crucial issues and problems after the war than our people have faced before.

Malnutrition Seen Decreasing in Britain

The London correspondent of A.M.A. Journal, in October 4 issue, says: Thanks to the attention given to nutrition by the Government, there is in the second year of war less malnutrition than before the war. R. S. Hudson, Minister of Agriculture, recently said in the House of Commons that the food situation is more encouraging than he dared to hope a year ago. He said, however, that we would have to rely more on potatoes, cereals, and vegetables and a slight change from proteins of animal origin to those of vegetable origin. We are drinking annually in England and Wales 880 million gallons of milk compared with 760 before the war. We cannot import feeding stuff for animals to the prewar extent, but many potential feeding stuffs are being brought into use for the first time. Foremost is the waste foodstuffs from the towns, which, when supplemented with concentrates form a valuable feeding stuff for pigs and poultry. We are plowing up hitherto uncultivated land, including golf courses. Farmers are being asked to plow up this year another 2,000,000 acres.

Wisconsin Cow-Housing Experiments

Prairie Farmer (Oct. 4): The Dairy, Agricultural Engineering, and Agronomy Departments of the University of Wisconsin have started a dairy cow housing project on the University Hill Farm at Madison. The funds for this study came from the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corporation. The new fabricated steel barn, on concrete foundations, is being used to compare the advantages and disadvantages of an open-pen and loose-run type of barn with those of the ordinary stall and stanchion type commonly used in Wisconsin. The experimental work is completely in charge of the university. Results, favorable and unfavorable, will be reported just as in all research work at the Experiment Station.

DAILY DIGEST

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WICKARD ON PRICE-CONTROL LEGISLATION

Secretary Wickard, in a statement yesterday on the price-control bill before the House Committee on Banking and Currency, said: "There is a perfectly practical and obvious reason for stipulating that no ceiling should be imposed on farm products at less than 110 percent of parity, rather than exactly at parity. As every farmer knows, farm product prices fluctuate every day. The supply of a commodity coming on the market changes from day to day, and the demand changes from day to day. Prices fluctuate accordingly. Price fluctuations may be desirable to stop the flooding of markets at certain periods. As a rule daily price fluctuations are relatively small, but they ought to be allowed for in order to keep to a minimum the amount of administrative supervision necessary. If ceilings were placed exactly at parity, the daily fluctuations in the market would necessarily all be between parity and some lower figure, and as a result, farmers could not possibly average parity."

EASTERN DROUGHT GENERALLY WORSE

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin: With continued absence of rainfall and prevailing unseasonably high temperatures, drought conditions in a large eastern area became more intense during the past week. There has been a remarkable absence of rain for about 2 months, the most serious being from southern New England and southern New York southward and southwestward to Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi, although the southern portions of the east Gulf States have had some good rains. In many places, vegetation has practically dried up, pasture fields brown and bare, and late gardens and truck crops severely damaged.

FLOOD DAMAGES KANSAS CROPS, LIVESTOCK

AP report from Topeka in Washington Post, October 22: Kansas farmers found their homes, crops, and livestock engulfed in another flood yesterday. Cloudbursts which loosed as much as a foot of rain brought high-water marks to Salina, Emporia, Abilene, McPherson, Council Grove, Dunlap, and a half dozen other communities yesterday. Many farm families were marooned on second floors, and 225 head of livestock were marooned on a pasture island north of Emporia. Rail officials reported the worst tie-up in years.

URGES INCREASED FOOD PRODUCTION

UP report from Nashville in New York Journal of Commerce, October 22: Dr. Wallace McClure, assistant chief of the State Department's treaty division, last night urged the nation's farmers to "heap the international cupboard to overflowing" in 1942 so that the war may be won and the post-war world may combat famine. He told the annual meeting of the United States Liaison Committee of the Associated Country Women of the World that when the war is won they will have an opportunity to prevent unemployment and thus "circumvent the major factor in depression."

Monthly Science News Letter

Science (October 17): The British Council has formed a Science Committee under the chairmanship of Sir William Bragg, director of the Royal Institution, with the object of strengthening relations between British scientific men and those abroad. The committee has begun the publication of the Monthly Science News letter, giving a survey of current scientific developments, under the editorship of J. G. Crowther.

Giant Dahlia

Florists Exchange (October 18): A semi-cactus dahlia, growing to 15 inches in diameter, perhaps the largest ever grown, has been developed by Delbert T. Morgan, Jr., assistant teacher in botany at Columbia University. This variety, named Columbia, is a second generation cross from two noted varieties, Jane Cowl and Amelia Earhart.

Windrowing Helps Combine

Hoard's Dairyman (October 10): In a humid state, such as Wisconsin, often a grain combine can be used to best advantage if the grain first is dried in windrows for a day or two. If the grain is lodged, weed infested, or ripening unevenly, drying in windrows is the best way to bring the moisture content down to a safe point. The past season, F. W. Duffee used the windrow-and-combine method on part of the crop at the University of Wisconsin farms under conditions about as unfavorable as possible. More than 2½ inches of rain fell during the three days after windrowing, and the next few days also were cloudy, damp, and poor for drying. Because the grain was valuable seed oats, it was thought best to turn the windrows by hand. They dried quickly and were combined in good condition. The grain was free from must and mold, the only damage being a very slight darkening.

White Blackberries Found In Florida

Science News Letter (October 18): A large wild colony of white blackberries has been discovered near Gainesville, Florida, by W. A. Murrell of the University of Florida, who plans to experiment with the wild berries in the hope of improving them for local use. White blackberries previously discovered have never been suited to Florida's climate.

Food Values In Wartime

Science News Letter (October 18): Cook some peas, beans, or lentils; press them through a collander or sieve; mix with chopped parsley or watercress; moisten with a few drops of a strongly flavored sauce or catsup; cut in hunks to eat with crackers, or spread on bread or serve on hot toast. This is one of the items suggested to English housewives in a book which has just reached this country, Food Values in Wartime, by Violet G. Plimmer. Her square meal is made from foods in four groups: bread, butter, flesh, and salad.

Biological Abstracts in Wartime

Science (October 10): John E. Flynn, editor-in-chief of Biological Abstracts, University of Pennsylvania, writes that with continuance of the war, diffusion of knowledge of current scientific advances becomes more difficult and uncertain. Biological Abstracts has been undertaking to compensate, so far as an abstracting journal can compensate, for this deficiency by arranging to abstract the European literature. Through the cooperation of the library of the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole and of the U.S.D.A. special arrangements have been made for abstracting foreign periodicals obtainable in these libraries. At present some 1,400 periodicals are being reviewed in Biological Abstracts. This includes a group of about 300 periodicals, mainly European or Latin American, assigned during this special drive for better coverage of foreign-language literature.

Census of Scientific Workers

In connection with the National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel, President Leonard Carmichael and Robert Shosteck report it has become important to have statistical information concerning specialized personnel in countries other than the United States. Varied sources have been tapped to secure the incomplete data now in the Roster's file. These sources include censuses, professional directories and registries, yearbooks of various nations, professional society memberships in Minerva, and data secured by American diplomatic representatives in various nations. Copies of the mimeographed report are obtainable from the National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel, Atlantic Building, Washington, D.C. (Science, Oct. 10)

Vitamin Restoration of Foods

Dr. Russell M. Wilder, Chairman of Committee on Food and Nutrition, National Research Council, in article on vitamin restoration of foods, in Scientific Monthly (Oct.): The A.M.A. Council on Foods and Nutrition endorses the principle of restorative "fortification" of processed foods but emphasizes that every effort should first be directed to retaining in the products the food values of the natural foods from which they were made. If any fortifications are to be permitted, they should be restricted to foods which are suitable vehicles for the minerals and vitamins to be restored. The added substances should mix well and not lose their potency during the usual conditions of storage, and they should be in such form that they will be assimilated by the consumer. In the interest of public health, improvement of the inexpensive staple foods is primary in importance, and what is done should be effected at a minimal added cost to the consumer. Otherwise added vitamins or minerals will not reach those who are most in need of them.

Urges One Egg A Day For Each Person

Better Iowa, October 13: If everybody in the United States ate one egg every day, poultrymen of the nation would have to increase their production of this protective food by about 30 percent. They would have to keep flocks that would lay a total of 47,450 million eggs per year. Nutritionists at Iowa State College say that even though prices are fairly high, the food value that they contain still makes eggs an economical food. One egg every day will supply 10 percent of the daily protein requirement of an average adult, 4 percent of the required calcium, 13 percent of the iron, 9 percent of the phosphorus, 5 percent of the iodine, from 4 to 16 percent of vitamin A, from 3 to 6 percent of vitamin B_1, 3 to 7 percent of the riboflavin, 3 to 4 percent of the nicotinic acid and from 3 to 12 percent of the required vitamin D.

Says White Grubs Will Threaten Crops in 1942

Better Iowa, October 13: Harold Gunderson, Iowa extension entomologist, has warned Iowa farmers that 1942 will be a bad white grub year. He said the grubs would constitute a particularly serious menace to crops planted on spring-plowed grass land. Crops planted on fall-plowed pasture, sweet clover and soybeans also will be in danger, but to a lesser extent. Because of this heavy white grub infestation, Gunderson said it will be wise not to plant corn on pasture land next spring. Damage also may be expected next year to corn planted on corn ground, Gunderson said, since white grub surveys conducted last summer showed heavy grub populations in some corn fields.

Would Limit "Enrichment" to Bread, Flour

Northwestern Miller (October 8): A resolution favoring enrichment for flour and bread only, with the possible exception of corn meal, was adopted by the National Research Council Committee on Food and Nutrition on October 1. Specifically, the committee opposes the addition of synthetic vitamins to carbonated beverages and confectionery.

Canada Will Get Natural Enriched Flour

Northwestern Miller (October 8): It is expected Canadian mills will soon be producing a high vitamin flour made from natural wheat and not fortified by artificial means, according to a report by the Cereal Division, Dominion Experimental Farms Service, which for the past 12 months has been studying the problems involved. Investigations have shown that it is possible to produce acceptable white flour which will make an excellent loaf of white bread carrying 350 to 400 International Units of B_1 per pound by making certain slight adjustments in the milling procedure. The division hopes the new flour will be on the market by the end of the year.

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXIII, No. 17 Section 1 October 23, 1941.

HENDERSON ON PRICE-CONTROL LEGISLATION

Washington report in New York Journal of Commerce, October 23: Unless Congress acts speadily to approve the emergency price-control bill now pending before the House Banking and Currency Committee, it may become necessary to consider a more far-reaching program of "regimentation" to combat inflation, Price Administrator Leon Henderson said yesterday, with the approval of President Roosevelt. In a report to Mr. Roosevelt on the recent action of Premier Mackenzie King of Canada, extending controls over prices and wages to cover all industries, Henderson said that a situation has not arisen in the United States where similar action must be taken, but legislation is needed to enable the Government to undertake the type of control exercised in Canada.

PREDICTS SLOW STARVATION OF GERMANY

AP report from St. Louis in New York Times, October 23: Germany was declared yesterday to be committing suicide by slow starvation in her conquest of Europe. Dr. Seale Harris of Birmingham, Alabama, who served as an officer in the Army Medical Corps with the A.E.F. in France during the World War, predicted in an interview during the meeting of the American Dietetic Association that even with the most favorable circumstances the German people would not hold out in the face of hunger for longer than another two or three years. The physician was assigned to a nutritional survey of European countries following the 1918 armistice and submitted a report to the peace conference on conditions in Germany, Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands, France, and Italy. Germany is making a fatal mistake, today, he said, in sacrificing her most valuable food resources for the future in order to meet the immediate needs of her far-flung armies and the civilian population.

NEED CARGO SPACE FOR WESTERN CANNED PACK

Washington dispatch in New York Times, October 23: West Coast canners of fruit and vegetables, who estimate they will need at least 25 percent of the available cargo space to move their 1941 packs to the East Coast markets, pressed the Maritime Commission yesterday for word as to when the space allocations for their goods will be made. Reports were that no action will be taken on the canners' problems until the question of priorities for eastbound lumber shipments and westbound steel shipments is solved. Major fruit and vegetable packs have been completed on the West Coast and if space is not available canners will be forced to use the more expensive railroad freight in order to complete delivery contracts.

To Combat Stored-Grain Insect Pests

Editorial in Northwestern Miller (October 8): Continuing and recently substantially increased losses by millers and their customers from insect infestation of mill products and the Federal Government campaign against infested food products of every kind amply justify action of the Millers National Federation in setting up a special department in its organization to aid its members and the bread industries as a whole in combating an evil that is age-old. The federation was both wise in selecting and fortunate in being able to secure George B. Wagner for the new assignment. Associated for many years with R. T. Cotton in BEPQ, he is undoubtedly better equipped for the task than any other man. His standing with officials of government is such as to insure complete cooperation with them, and his many years' contact with millers, together with his enviable personal characteristics, have won him high place in their confidence and respect.

Cooperative Sheep Bands

Western Farm Life (Oct. 1): One of the most interesting livestock operations on the Grand Mesa National Forest in Colorado is the cooperative handling of small bands of sheep. There are 11 bands in the vicinity of Collbran and 10 bands around Hotchkiss. The most economical band for the individual owner is between 300 and 500 sheep. The cost of running the sheep in a pool band for 3-2/3 months on the forest was 62 cents a head, including all association assessments. This is a typical example of the ordinary pool band income and expenses where the owner is a good manager, hires good handlers, and has a ranch setup that is well adapted to that size band.

British-American Hybrid Corn

New England Homestead (Oct. 4): Among the exhibits of the cornfield of the Connecticut Experiment Station at New Haven on Field Day, August 20, was the British-American hybrid corn, Morton 6xC13. This is the first hybrid corn developed in England and it has a Connecticut inbred as one parent. Seed was sent to the Experiment Station in April, planted in May, and a row of sturdy British corn has grown up. It is extra early and, according to W. Ralph Singleton, is well adapted to Connecticut.

Domestic Peat Supply

Southern Florist, October 10: Domestic producers of peat are evidently able to meet normal demand, even though all imports should be cut off. During World War I, 25 plants in 13 states produced 107,000 short tons of peat. Our annual consumption of peat in 1940 was 134,094 tons, of which 93 percent was used for soil improvement. In 1939 imports accounted for 78,600 tons, and in 1940 for only 21,600 tons, and figures for 1941 will probably be much less. At present there are 50 peat producers in the United States, compared to 25 in 1918.

Urges More Use Of Railroad Equipment

AP report from Milwaukee in Washington Post, October 22: Ralph Budd, Burlington Railroad president and member of the advisory commission to the Council of National Defense, yesterday asked representatives of railroad shippers and carriers to aid defense by putting existing railroad equipment to heavier use. He advised the convention of the Associated Traffic Clubs of America to keep freight cars on the move, not to hold them under load in lieu of warehouse space; to load and unload them promptly, and to fill them to capacity. Budd urged that carriers increase their capacity to balance increased production of industry and agriculture.

TVA Develops "Baby" Thresher

J. A. Elliott, University of Tennessee, in Agricultural Leaders' Digest, October: A "baby" thresher mounted on rubber tires, capable of being moved over hard-surfaced roads at 50 miles an hour when hooked behind an automobile with an ordinary trailer hitch, has been designed by research engineers with the TVA, in cooperation with Experiment Station and Extension Service workers in the Tennessee Valley area. The machine can be operated with a 7 horsepower gasoline motor, requiring only 5 gallons of gasoline and one pint of oil for a 10-hour run; threshes 25-50 bushels wheat, 30-60 barley, 50-90 oats, 10-20 rye, 15-30 soybeans, 10-20 lespedeza and 1/2-2 bushels clover seed in an hour.

Canada Supplies Most of U. S. Import Needs

AP report from Ottawa in Baltimore Sun, October 15: Canada surpassed the whole of Europe, including the United Kingdom, in supplying U. S. import demands in 1940-41, it was shown in trade figures issued yesterday. Total imports from Europe and the United Kingdom were valued at $287,588,000, while Canadian goods sent over the border were valued at $455,942,000.

Diet Project For Aircraft Workers

AP report from Los Angeles in Baltimore Sun, October 15: To step up efficiency of 1,300 aircraft workers, the board of supervisors of two aviation plants have arranged to conduct a diet project. The plan includes dietetic diagnosis and physical examination of each worker who volunteers. A diet of vitamin-rich foods will be given at the plants for from six to nine months, after which the volunteer will be reexamined. The project will be under the supervision of Robert A. Millikan of the California Institute of Technology.

Canada Cuts Hosiery Output, Bars Jap Imports

Canadian Textile Journal (October 10): Steps are being taken by the Silk Substitutes Advisory Committee to increase supplies of all types of rayon and mercerized cotton yarns for use in hosiery mills. Inadequate yarn supply during August and September has forced curtailment of hosiery output. It is estimated that output has been cut about 15 percent with further reduction expected in October.

Importation into Canada of goods from Japan, the Japanese Empire, or Manchuria is prohibited by Order-in-Council dated September 23, except under special license granted by the Minister of National Revenue. This will affect the importation of textiles, which amounted last year to 2,186,000 pounds.

Farmers Improve 365 Million Acres in '40 Under AAA

Nearly 6 million farmers, working 80 percent of the total U. S. cropland, protected and improved their farms by conservation measures of the 1940 AAA Farm Program, the Department has reported. Farms comprising nearly 365 million acres of cropland benefited under the Conservation Program, compared with 355 million acres the previous year, said R. M. Evans, AAA Administrator. The major conservation accomplishments included new seedings of 41 million acres of legumes and grasses; 22 million acres of green manure and cover crops; 29 million acres of land protected by major erosion control practices such as contour farming, strip-cropping and summer fallow; construction of 281 million feet of terraces; application to the soil of more than 12 million tons of lime and 936,000 tons of superphosphate; and 525,000 acres of forest trees planted or improved.

Corn Husking Contest Nov. 3

I.A.A. Record, October: The National Corn Husking Contest, scheduled this year for November 3, will be held on the Schafer farm in La Salle County (Ill.). The match is expected to attract a crowd of over 100,000 people.

May Fortify Bread, Promote Wheatmeal Flour

Food (London, August): The subject of the fortification of bread is arousing more interest. In Commons recently it was said quantities of vitamins were being obtained from the U.S.A., and that speedy consideration would be given to the addition of calcium to both white and wholemeal bread. We also understand, says Food, that plans for manufacturing aneurin (vitamin B_1) in this country have progressed rapidly and that we have the largest factory for this purpose in the world.

Food Manufacture (London, August): National wheatmeal flour is now available to bakers. This flour contains the greater part of the germ of wheat, with some of the finer bran, but excludes the coarser bran. Thus it contains not only most of the vitamin B_1, but also most of the remainder of the vitamin B complex. Bread made of national wheatmeal flour should be of a pale brown color and of a flavor and texture closely similar to white bread. Food Manufacture also says experiments have shown that the nutritive value of national straight-run flour, even when supplemented with vitamin B_1 and salts, is markedly inferior to that of wholemeal flour.

New Source of Vitamin D

New Jersey Farm and Garden (October): Discovery of a new source of Vitamin D is announced by the Du Pont Company. It is said the discovery will make the American poultry industry permanently independent of Vitamin D imports, now virtually shut off by disturbed world conditions. This new Vitamin D has been defined as "D" - Activated Animal Sterol by the American Association of Feed Control Officials.

DAILY DIGEST

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SENATE PASSES SECOND LEND-LEASE BILL

Washington Post, October 24: The Senate yesterday approved the House-passed $5,985,000,000 second lend-lease appropriation bill by a 59 to 13 vote and sent it back to the House with only minor amendments. The second aid installment was passed without a single attempt to cut it. By a voice vote the Senate imposed only one new restriction on the sum granted. On motion of Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming, use of the money to buy agricultural or industrial products outside the United States was barred.

U.S. PURCHASES AUSTRALIAN WOOL

AP report from Boston in New York Herald Tribune, October 24: The United States has purchased all Australian wool that is either in this country or on the seas destined for the reserve storage plan, Percy E. Sheldon, president of the Boston Wool Trade Association, said yesterday. The association was officially advised that the purchase included approximately 125,000,000 pounds, plus any additional quantity shipped before December 31, 1941, provided grades are within the standards specified, nothing lower in quality than 60-40's. This wool was bought at 10 percent less than the export issue list, f.o.b. Australian ports.

COFFEE BOARD SETS QUOTAS

AP report in New York Herald Tribune, October 24: The Inter-American Coffee Board, after months of discussion, yesterday set the amount of coffee which 14 American republics can ship into the United States at 110 percent of the basic quota set when the board was formed. The figures represent a compromise between one group which wanted the quota set at last year's 100 percent figure and a second faction which wanted retention of a 20 percent increase that was the quota last August.

HAWAIIAN FOOD PLAN REJECTED

AP report from Washington in New York Herald Tribune, October 24: Hawaii's plan for accumulating a $3,400,000 food supply to meet any emergency has been rejected by President Roosevelt upon recommendation of the Budget Bureau, Samuel W. King, Territorial delegate, said yesterday. Mr. King said Bruce Ashby, of OPA, notified him of the President's action.

FARM-HOME TALKS WEEK OF OCT. 27

Among radio talks scheduled for the Farm and Home Hour for the week of October 27 are: Oct. 27, New Ways to Fight Weeds, by L. W. Kephart, BPI; Oct. 28, Mrs. America Volunteers, by Ruth Van Deman, BHE; Oct. 29, Land Grant College Program by Oregon State College; Oct. 30, Food in Civilian Defense, by Josephine Hemphill, USDA Information, and Eloise Davison, Office of Civilian Defense.

Parasite Helps Control Citrus Red Scale

Citrus Leaves, October: The California College of Agriculture has developed a method of mass propagation of the red-scale feeding race of Comperiella bifasciata (Chinese race of Comperiella) recently imported by the Citrus Experiment Station at Riverside. This parasite gives promise of controlling red scale in California citrus groves just as the Metaphycus helvolus is aiding control of black scale. With large numbers of the red-scale parasite being propagated at the station, it is possible to supply other insectaries with stock so they may propagate the parasites.

Egg Production Increasing

Egg production during September totaled 7,353,000 cases, a record production for the month, AMS reports. Production during the first 9 months of this year was the largest since 1930 and the 1941 annual production is expected to exceed that of last year by 4 to 5 percent.

Farm Machinery Needed in G. B.

Implement & Machinery Review (London, August 1): As agricultural machinery is arriving from the United States under the lease-lend act, we may conclude that there will be no want of farm equipment and farm power in the near future in Britain. Otherwise it would have been hazardous for the Government to have undertaken not only the Feltwell Fen drainage scheme (involving the immediate reclamation of 1,400 acres), but also the drainage of something like 2 million further acres supported by Government action and funds. Under the Feltwell Fen scheme, says the Review, 1,000 acres have been reclaimed and cropped for harvesting this year. The cropping plan includes 400 acres of cereals, chiefly oats, 120 acres of sugar beet, 120 acres of potatoes, and the rest miscellaneous.

Priorities Not For Individual Farmers

The Department says individual farmers are not required to have priority ratings, in order to purchase ordinary farm machinery, equipment, repair parts, fertilizers, insecticides, nails, fencing, roofing or similar items. "Priority ratings on equipment and supplies such as these," M. Clifford Townsend, OADR director, explained, "are issued by OPM to manufacturers, processors, and warehousemen in order to avoid having individuals obtain ratings. Townsend said his office had received letters from farmers saying their local retailers had advised them it was necessary to secure a "priority rating" before making certain purchases.

Canada Pays 1/3 Freight Rate on Stock Feeds

Dominion Department of Agriculture release, October 8: To insure adequate supplies of feed for livestock in eastern Canada for ware requirements, the Privy Council has authorized the Minister of Agriculture, under the War measures Act, to pay one-third of the regular freight charges on carload lots or steamship cargoes of western grains whole or ground, wheat bran, wheat shorts, wheat middlings, wheat screenings, and mill feeds produced in eastern Canada from western wheat. The products must be distributed as feed before July 1, 1942.

Device Records Watering Habits of Cattle

J. R. Bentley, of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, has developed an automatic recorder for determining the salting and watering habits of cattle. The apparatus and methods are described in the October Journal of Forestry. The apparatus, says Bentley, may also have application in game management studies.

Forest Farmers Cooperative Adopts Program

Journal of Forestry, October: General offices of the newly formed Forest Farmers Association Cooperative have been opened in Valdosta, Georgia. Members of the association -- which is chartered to operate in Georgia, Florida, Alabama, North and South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas -- are using a program of work adopted in cooperation with State foresters and Forest Service representatives. Any owner of 40 acres or more of forest land is eligible to become a member.

Gully Control Publications

Agricultural Engineering, October: The A.S.A.E. subcommittee on the control of gully erosion has compiled a list of the best current publications on gully erosion control (given in this issue). The committee believes that one phase of gully control has not been adequately solved, namely, the control of gullies in arid and semi-arid regions.

Packages for Dried Vegetables

Food Industries, October: University of California studies on dehydrated vegetables show that packages for these products must be insect-proof and moisture-proof. Insects were found to be voraciously fond of dried vegetables and willing to eat holes in cartons to reach them. Absorption of moisture causes rapid deterioration in color, flavor, and odor of the product. Cans appear to be the most satisfactory containers. For civilian use, pliofilm bags such as are used for dried vegetable soup mixtures would be satisfactory. Work on vegetable drying, under W. V. Cruess and E. M. Mrak, is still under way at California.

Value of Milk in Wartime

London correspondence in A.M.A. Journal, October 11: Lord Dawson (physician) said recently in the House of Lords that British consumption of milk was increasing and was contributing in no small measure to the good health of the people, notwithstanding the rationing of other foods and the wear and tear of the war. The production of milk, he said, should be ranked as of as much importance as the production of munitions of war. While he did not say that a certain amount of meat was desirable and even necessary, he submitted that the second on the priority list for food should be eggs rather than beef. If milk production was reduced, we should import powdered whole milk and powdered skim milk. He hoped that milk rationing would be avoided.

Wool Versus Artificial Fibers

Editorial in Pastoral Review (Melbourne, August 16): The great postwar objective at which the wool industry must aim is the production of ample supplies of good wool at a price that will enable it to meet the ever-increasing competition of artificial fibers. In the period of seven years preceding the war, world wool production declined from 1,749 million pounds per annum to 1,560 million pounds. In the same period, the output of artificial fibers increased from 508 million pounds to 1,974 million pounds per annum. After the war, there are sound reasons to assume, artificial fibers will constitute even better value, and in most of the countries of Europe and other markets that have hitherto been big consumers of wool these synthetic products or substitutes will have become far more strongly intrenched than in the past.

Tri-State Power Co-op

Rural Electrification News, October: The Tri-State (Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa) Power Cooperative, near Genoa, Wisconsin, is the largest generating plant constructed in the REA program. It serves 11 farmer-owned distribution cooperatives. The Tri-State is interconnected with the Wisconsin Power Cooperative of Chippewa Falls. The two systems together form what is believed to be the world's largest rural electrification network, now serving well over 20,000 farms. It is expected that as many as 50,000 farms will be connected.

Anglo-Egyptian Cotton Purchasing

Cairo wireless to the New York Times, October 16: Although the Egyptian Parliament adjourns today to November 12, its failure to pass the cotton-purchase tax will not halt the Anglo-Egyptian Cotton Purchase Commission, which was scheduled to start buying the 1941 crop yesterday in Upper Egypt with money advanced by Britain. Buying will start in Lower Egypt November 1. An agreement signed August 11 binds Britain to buy half the crop at prices varying between 14 1/2 and 15 1/2 Egyptian dollars (Egyptian dollar is worth about 83 cents). The Egyptian Parliament voted to buy the other half of the crop at 16 1/2 to 17 1/2 dollars. The purchased cotton will be stored and shipped abroad as soon as markets and transportation facilities permit.

Foreclosures of Farms Lowest in Seven Years

Farm foreclosure sales were the lowest in 7 years during the year ending June 30, a year that showed a sizeable expansion in the use of mortgage credit by farmers. A drop of 30 percent in farm foreclosure sales and an increase of 8 percent in the dollar volume of farm mortgage lending took place in the fiscal year 1941, compared with the previous year, according to A. G. Black, FCA governor. Foreclosures by individuals -- 20 percent -- showed the least decline. Insurance companies, with a drop of 44 percent, and Farm Credit Administration creditors, 38 percent, show the most. Improvement in farm income and remedial measures adopted in 1940, when more than 100,000 land bank and Commissioner loans were reamortized, are credited with providing the major impetus to the drop in foreclosures by the Farm Credit Administration.

DAILY DIGEST

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E.-I. BANK TO AID EXPORTS TO LATIN AMERICA

New York Journal of Commerce, October 27: The Export-Import Bank is arranging to cooperate with the central banks of South and Central America for the purpose of financing exports from the United States to their respective countries, it was disclosed yesterday by Federal Loan Administrator Jesse Jones. The Export-Import Bank will establish special lines of credit for banks in Central and South America to supplement existing lines, and the special lines will assume the uninsurable risks incidental to making deliveries to ports of destination.

OFFICE OF FACTS AND FIGURES ESTABLISHED

New York Journal of Commerce, October 27: An Office of Facts and Figures within OEM headed by Archibald MacLeish, Librarian of Congress, to facilitate and disseminate factual information to the Nation on the progress of the country's defense activities, was created yesterday by President Roosevelt by Executive Order. Director MacLeish, who will report directly to the President, will use existing facilities of the Government in the preparation of information. An advisory committee comprising officials of other Government agencies will aid Mr. MacLeish in carrying out the purpose of the bureau. He will continue as Librarian of Congress.

WHEAT MARKET DEPRESSED

New York Journal of Commerce, October 27: Liquidation inspired by the Treasury Department's announcement prohibiting new commodity trading in blocked funds and, in addition, the forecast that the President would veto the 100 percent parity payment plan for the next two years, were depressing factors in the wheat market. Futures declined almost 2 cents a bushel on the early selling but recovered slightly before the final bell. Chicago finished 1 to 1½ cents lower, Minneapolis showed net losses of 1 3/8 to 1½ cents, and Kansas City ended 1¼ to 1 7/8 cents lower.

COTTON MARKET RECLINES

New York Journal of Commerce, October 27: Anticipating active liquidation of accounts of foreigners as a result of the Treasury Department's rulings, the cotton futures market declined sharply in the first few minutes of trading on Saturday to losses of 32 to 37 points. However, the market developed moderate strength and rallied to close steady, off 16 to 21 points for the day.

Swede Home Co-op Farm

Farm Journal (October): A new act passed by Nebraska's one-house legislature authorizes ten or more persons to form a corporation for purchase of land over a long period of time. On the day it became effective, eleven Polk County farmers filed papers for the Swede Home Cooperative Farm. This new $10,000 co-op (1,000 shares at $10 each) is trying to buy land from insurance companies and wants to start farming next spring. No member can have more than 5 percent of the stock, nor more than one vote. The lawmakers hope this act will encourage ownership for farmers of limited resources.

Supplementing Refrigeration of Fruits, Vegetables

W. T. Pentzer (BPI, Fresno, California) writing in Refrigerating Engineering for October on supplementing refrigeration of fruits and vegetables, says each commodity appears to require a special treatment. Sulfur dioxide is particularly suited for decay control in grapes, but it is too toxic for other fruits and vegetables. Nitrogen trichloride has found application on oranges and to a limited extent on cantaloupes. Methyl bromide and ethylene oxide have shown little value so far as fungicides. Ozone must be classed likewise as ineffective in the concentrations commonly employed. Carbon dioxide is of benefit in the storage of some varieties of apples that are harmed by low temperatures and gives definite promise as an accessory treatment in the shipment of highly perishable fruits such as cherries and berries. Ultraviolet light has not controlled molds in transit and storage. The incorporation of volatile fungicides in the packing material to give protection against decay in transit and storage offers considerable promise, and such treatments as copperized wraps and oiled wraps have proved their worth.

Artificial Climate for Grass Studies

Ice and Refrigeration (October): A unique achievement on the part of the (USDA) Regional Pasture Laboratory at Penn State College is the new four-compartment test box in which pasture plants can be grown under weather conditions equivalent to those in any part of the civilized world. These compartments have separate temperature control for the soil boxes in which the plants are actually grown, and for the air surrounding the plants. The circulation of conditioned air through the boxes has been arranged so that the "wind" velocity over the plants is generally only about one mile per hour. Fans can, however, be installed to simulate a gale. The various grasses will be cut back by clipping from time to time, the same as they would be when cattle graze. The exact effect of this clipping on each variety will be studied. Within a few years it is likely that the facts learned in these boxes, the only ones of their kind thus far in existence, will have been widely published and put into practice on thousands of acres.

Improved Hays By Dehydration Processes. American Miller, October, in abstract of report of Pennsylvania Experiment Station on "dehydration," or artificial drying, of hay, says: Expense involved in drying hay is subject to wide variation because it is influenced so much by the cost of fuel, the effeciency in the use of heat, the amount of water that must be evaporated per ton of dried hay, the amount of labor and power needed, and the overhead. When overhead expenditures such as depreciation, interest, and taxes are included, the costs usually vary from $5 to $10 per ton. Practical feeding tests with dehydrated forages versus sun-cured forages from the same source are quite significant. In every case there was evidence of superior feeding value in the product that was dehydrated as compared with that from the same field cured in the sun. The sun-cured product was in all cases a high grade cured without rain. This makes the results all the more significant in view of the fact that quality of hay is frequently lowered by rain and unfavorable weather.

Farmer's Stake in Victory of Democracies Editorial in Southern Agriculturist (October): "The stake of the American farmer in a British and and Russian victory over Hitler is very great. If the Nazis win, it would mean sweeping, radical re-adjustments in our agriculture, and the changes would be so sudden and drastic that they would mean complete iron-handed regimentation and Federal control for all products of all farmers. If victorious in Europe, Germany would concentrate first on the Latin American market. The logical market for a large part of Latin America's agricultural production is Europe. In turn, a Nazi-dominated Europe would sell Latin American its manufactured goods along with Nazi political, social, and economic ideas."

West Virginia Station Barley A new strain of barley is being released by the West Virginia Experiment Station to members of the West Virginia Associated Crop Growers, an organization of farmers especially interested in increasing and keeping pure crop seeds found by the station to be superior. The new barley has not been named but is designated by number 1-35-274, which means it was first grown by the station in 1935 and was the 274th head selected.

USDA Safflower Experiments Progressive Farmer (November): Experiments at the Chillicothe (Tex.) Experiment Station under the direction of J. Roy Quinby (BPI) have shown that the safflower (an oil-bearing plant) is ideally adapted to localities that have plenty of moisture in spring, but little in summer. The 1940 yield at the Chillicothe station was 937 pounds to the acre, compared to a wheat yield that year of 600 pounds to the acre. The 1941 crop was lower because of too much summer moisture.

Corn Husks For Tamales Farm Journal (October): In the San Joaquin Valley Delta near Holt, California, about 600 Mexican field workers gather and prepare for market 400,000 pounds of husks for tamale wrapping. Farmers pay about half the rate they would for ordinary husking, plus the husks. Huskers get 7½ cents a pound for husks. An average day's work is 60 to 75 pounds of husks. Husks are taken to a packing house for weighing, bleaching, sorting, baling and shipping.

REA Food Hydrator

Rural Electrification News (October): Recently a small food dehydrator was constructed by REA at a total cost of $20. Of this sum, $9 represents the cost of a 1,200-watt, bathroom, fan-type heater used to supply the heat and circulate the air. For preliminary tests, washed wheat, green corn, and apples were dried. The dehydrator has a capacity of about half a bushel of wheat, two bushels of green corn in the ear (cut off the cob for drying), or a bushel of apples. In the emergency use to which this type of dehydrator will probably be put, substitutes may have to be found for the copper screen.

Torch Tests Iodine in Feedstuffs

I. G. Kinghorn, Colorado State College, in Agricultural Leaders' Digest, October: Through use of a special torch, recently developed at the Colorado Experiment Station to determine iodine content of feedstuffs, it has been found that feed grown in Colorado is very low in iodine. Investigations at the station have shown that poultry and rats in some cases will develop goiter when they are fed ordinary rations. Work by the poultry and pathology sections of the station was the first in which it was possible to produce goiter in poultry experimentally. Similar investigations are being carried on with lambs and cattle. The torch was developed by Frank X. Gassner of the pathology section. The torch is useful in ascertaining not only the iodine content of feedstuffs, but of biological material as well. Anything that can be made to burn can be tested with this torch.

Store Butter Six Years

Ithaca (N.Y.) report in Dairy Record (October 8): Butter may be successfully stored in sub-zero temperatures for a period of six years, it was claimed by Dr. E. S. Guthrie, Dr. C. N. Stark, and Dr. B. J. Scheib of Cornell University after taking butter out of the coolers where it had been stored for that period of time. Six samples were treated differently and at the end of the six-year period one tested 92.3. No announcement was made of the procedure used for the one sample.

New Coccidiosis Treatment

Successful Farming (October): A new method of preventing coccidiosis by vaccination has been announced by the Wisconsin Experiment Station. The method is based on an entirely new principle, according to C. A. Herrick of the poultry department. It is not, strictly speaking, one of actual vaccination, but is called that for want of a better name. What is actually done is to expose coccidial oocysts, the germs of the disease, to X-rays so as to reduce their virulence. Measured doses of treated oocysts are then fed to chicks in order to give the birds a light infection and thereby allow them to build up immunity to the disease. There is no vaccine on the market as yet, poultry experts state that it would be practically impossible for flock owners to prepare their own and its preparation is a job which can be done only by a scientific laboratory.

DAILY DIGEST

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CONGRESS PASSES LEND-LEASE BILL

Washington Post, October 28: The House and Senate yesterday approved the $5,985,000,000 second lend-lease appropriation and sent the bill to the President for his signature. Final passage came after a conference agreement removed the Senate prohibition on use of the funds for purchase of agricultural products grown outside the United States. Senator Adams of Colorado said the lend-lease administrator and the House conferees objected to the requirement that funds marked for agriculture be spent solely in this country, but said he was assured that "no products will be purchased outside of the United States if they can be obtained here."

WARN AGAINST TRANSPORTATION SHORTAGE

New York Journal of Commerce, October 28: Warnings that this country is "teetering on the edge" of a shortage of transportation facilities vital to national defense were sounded yesterday by Thomas H. MacDonald, Commissioner of the Public Roads Administration, and Ted V. Rodgers, president of the American Trucking Association. Mr. MacDonald, who delivered the principal address at the opening session of the association's eighth annual convention in New York City, said the emergency had placed an unprecedented burden on all modes of transportation and the problem of moving vital supplies and materials was becoming acute.

WANTS FARM PARITY IN PRICE CONTROL BILL

Washington report in New York Journal of Commerce, October 28: Members of the House farm bloc made preparations last night for a vigorous fight against the Administration's price control bill unless amendments are made that will assure farmers that they will be allowed to receive parity for their products in the administration of the law. On the eve of the first executive session of the House Banking Committee to consider revisions in the bill, Chairman Fulmer (S.C.) of the House Agricultural Committee announced that he plans to appoint a subcommittee to confer with officials of the Department of Agriculture on their conception of parity to determine whether any legislation along this line should be enacted.

Liquid Egg Production

Liquid egg production by commercial egg-breaking plants in September was over five times that of September last year, reports AMS. Production was estimated at 12,701,000 pounds, compared with 2,401,000 pounds a year earlier.

Urges Regulation of Christmas Tree Marketing

Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, October 15: For many years Canada has been the principal source of supply of Christmas trees to the United States, but owing to want of regulation and cooperation on the part of growers, the larger share of the profits have not gone to them. The first step towards evolving a Christmas tree law has been taken by a Province of Ontario regulation requiring all exporters of Christmas trees to secure a permit from the Provincial Department of Lands and Forests, describing the land from which the trees were cut. The solution of the situation appears to lie in organized marketing under a system of standard grading. Such a plan has been in operation in the State of New Hampshire since 1930 with successful results.

1942 Program To Divert Potatoes to Starch

The Department has announced a program for diversion of up to 5 million bushels of Irish potatoes into starch and dextrine. For the present, the program will operate in Maine, Minnesota, Idaho, and Oregon and will be similar to those in 1937-38 when 3,680,000 bushels of Irish potatoes were diverted to starch and in 1940-41 when more than 7,400,000 bushels were diverted. Under the 1942 program, growers will receive Federal payments of 30 cents per U. S. standard barrel, made through SMA for 1941 crop potatoes of U. S. No. 2 grade or better diverted into starch or dextrine, and also 60 cents per barrel from the starch manufacturer.

Marketing Regulations For 1941 Tobacco

Marketing regulations for the sale of 1941 Burley, fire-cured, and dark air-cured leaf tobacco have been announced by the Department. Marketing quotas for fire-cured and dark air-cured types are in effect for the first time since 1938, but the regulations are basically the same as for Burley.

1941 Soybean Loan Program

A soybean loan program to aid the orderly marketing of a 1941 crop stimulated to record proportions to meet defense needs has been announced by the Department. It is the first soybean loan under the CCC. Grades to serve as basis for determining the loan rate will be established according to the U. S. official grain standards. Loans at the rate of $1.05 per bushel for No. 2 or better soybeans of all classes, stored on farms, will enable farmers to retain their crop for marketing later. The estimated soybean production for 1941 is 110,884,000 bushels, or about 31 million bushels more than last year.

Says Rural Areas Need Libraries

C. B. Baldwin, FSA Administrator, speaking October 22 to the Michigan State Library Association, at Traverse City, said: "For some years in the Farm Security Administration, we have been immensely interested in the possibilities of rural libraries. In our camps for migratory workers, for example, we have little traveling libraries--a couple of shelves full of books, and some back numbers of magazines. But whenever we try to encourage the use of libraries among rural people we always run up against one obstacle--the lack of reading material expressed in simple, concrete terms, in the language and life of the people. If we're going to meet the total needs of some of our people, we're going to have to have simple reading material for many of them. The constant refrain of FSA field workers runs something like this: 'Send us something that isn't written like a Ph.D. thesis; send us stuff that can be digested by third or fourth-grade readers.' They want material on farming and homemaking methods, on civic problems and responsibilities, on current events and on the individual's place in the community and the Nation."

Eastern Sugar; Reallocate P. R. Quota

The Department has made public data obtained from questionnaires sent recently to eastern cane sugar refiners concerning their supplies of sugar for melting operations during the last quarter of the current year, and announced that a deficit of 136,968 short tons, raw value, in the Puerto Rican 1941 sugar marketing quota of 1,148,160 tons for continental United States had been reallocated to Cuba. Replies to questionnaires show that the quantity of offshore sugar which the refiners south of Cape Hatteras had on hand, afloat, or for which vessels had been chartered as of October 11, 1941, amounted to 218,292 short tons, raw value, as compared with their meltings of 194,511 tons of such sugars during the last quarter of 1940.

More Pneumatic Tires for Farm Machinery

Western Livestock Lournal (October 15): Industry sales of pneumatic farm service tires are expected to reach an all-time high of $34,000,000 for 1941. This compares with farm tire sales of $22,000,000 in 1940 and $18,000,000 in 1939. Industrial statistics show that some 1,400,000 rubbershod tractors are in service in this country.

Livestock Situation

Developments to early October indicate that the total number of cattle fed during the 1941-42 feeding season may be smaller than a year earlier, BAE reports. Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into the Corn Belt during July-September were about one third smaller than in those months last year. Marketings of feeder cattle from the Western States have probably been delayed because of favorable range feed conditions in that area.

July Farm Exports at 10-Year High

Foreign Crops and Markets Monthly Supplement: With the lend-lease program in operation, U. S. agricultural exports in July, the first month of the new fiscal year, present an altogether different aspect from a year or even 2 years ago. Not only were they nearly 90 percent larger than in the 2 preceding years, but an entirely new set of commodities has been added to the list of what may be designated major exports. Valued at over 58 million dollars, exports were the largest July exports in 10 years. In fact, farm exports were higher in July 1941 than in any other month since March 1940, and July is not normally an important month for agricultural exports. In order of value the most important exports in July were leaf tobacco, lard, canned meats, evaporated milk, cotton, smoked and pickled pork, dried, frozen, and shell eggs, cheese, wheat, dried beans, corn, canned tomatoes, oranges, and dried fruits. The precedence of four commodities over cotton is a partial indication of the declining position of this normally largest of all exports.

Electric Fence Unit

Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, October 13: An electric-fence unit can be made from a Model T Ford coil to operate temporary fence lines on the farm. These units are easily made, inexpensive, and are operated from a six-volt car battery or a six-volt dry cell. The home-made electric fence constructed at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, consists of a coil, a light strap iron standard, and a swinging bar to make and break the electric circuit. Electric fences must for the sake of safety be operated from batteries. For cattle, horses, and hogs, the electric fence has proved very satisfactory but is sometimes not considered suitable for sheep, goats, or young calves.

Aid Farm Youth to Produce Defense Food

Farm Credit and Farm Security Administrations will make loans to members of 4-H Clubs and other rural youth groups - as well as to unaffiliated farm youngsters with responsible sponsors - to help make more food-raising projects possible than in the past. FSA will make loans to children of its borrowers where funds are otherwise unavailable and FCA will make loans through local production credit associations.

Tests on Winter Grape Pruning

After the leaves have fallen, one month is about as good as another for pruning grapevines in sections where winter temperatures rarely drop lower than 10 degrees below zero. This recommendation, somewhat contrary to popular belief is on the strength of recent Department investigations in which Concord, Delaware, and Ontario varieties were used. Vines of each were pruned at monthly intervals beginning November 1 each year, up to and including April 1. Vines pruned annually for 4 years on November 1 were no more subject to winter-killing than those pruned later. Neither were they stunted in growth nor reduced in yield of fruit. Where very low winter temperatures are encountered, however, winter-killing may take place if early pruning is followed by a heavy freeze.
